

RED STAR: The fall of a champion team

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

SOCCEER

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WEEKLY

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DANIEL **ALLSOP**

A young star in no hurry

HOW MANY NSL TEAMS?

**10, 12,
14 or 20**

STUDENT GAMES

Australia beats Brazil

Is it Parma's turn?

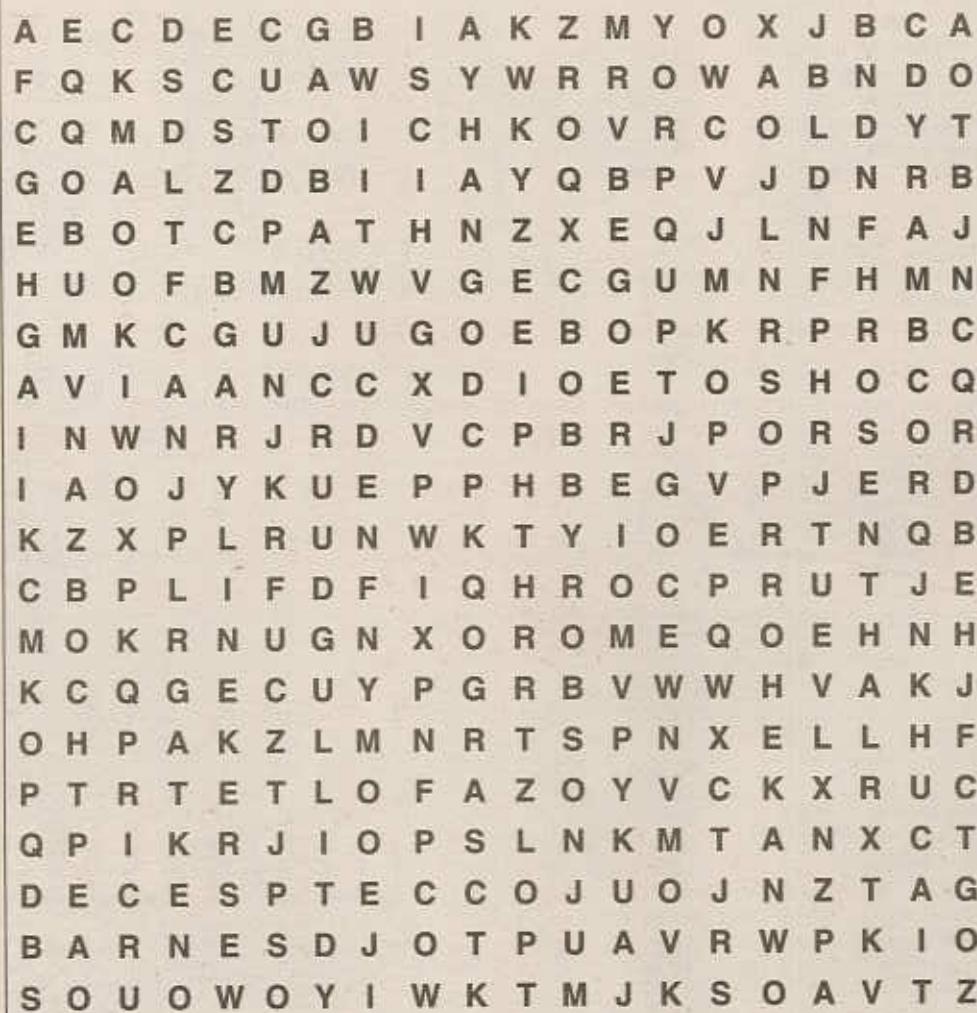


Serie A begins

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SHOCK DRAW - PAGE 21

find-a-star

★ find-a-star ★ find-a-star ★



AND TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answer the questions below then find the answers in the FIND-A-STAR above

- 1) Which former English soccer manager has begun his biggest challenge — against cancer? _____
- 2) Who is DIEGO MARADONA to play for in his comeback match from a 15 month ban against South Korea? _____
- 3) Who made his debut for Chelsea with all dreadlock blazing resulting in a 0-0 draw against Everton last week? _____
- 4) Who will be providing the necessary artillery up front for Parma after leaving Barcelona after a five year row with Cruyff? _____
- 5) Who will be Milan's new 'black spearhead' in the Serie A Championship? _____
- 6) Name the scorer of a sensational hat-trick for Tottenham Hotspurs last season? _____
- 7) Name the current English player with over 70 caps? _____
- 8) Where have Liverpool been victorious in the European Cup twice? _____
- 9) In a match between greats Brazil and England in 1992, at Wembley, who failed a much anticipated feat, of equalling Bobby Charlton's all-time scoring record, signalling the beginning of the end of his career? _____
- 10) Who made what Pele calls the greatest save ever made in the World Cup in one of the best encounters of the game — 1970 World Cup? _____

Darren Ally

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Front Page: Hristo Stoichkov

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MASSIVE REVAMP FOR KNIGHTS

Ambitious National Soccer League club Melbourne Knights plans a massive revamp of its Sunshine ground to ensure it will be considered as a venue for the Sydney 2000 Olympic games.

Club president Angie Cimera said last week the club had \$500,000 in the bank from the sale of Mark Viduka to Croatian club Dinamo Zagreb and was prepared to invest another \$500,000 to upgrade its stadium if needed.

Cimera said his club intended bringing the stadium up to FIFA requirements to be considered for early stages of Olympic games.

"It will take a couple of years but then we could look at getting international games here," he said.

"Why should they be paying big money to hire out Olympic Park when

they could be playing here."

Cimera said the club was talking to builders about constructing an-all seater grandstand on the touchline of its terracing and eventually linking it up with the main stand.

"We could have a seating capacity of about 12,000 and let's face it, it would be cheaper to hold games here," he said.

He said the club planned to build corporate boxes in its stadium and to make it one of the best venues in the country.

The Knights are flush from selling striker Viduka for half a million dollars and sweeper Steve Horvat to Hajduk Split for \$125,000 but Cimera was concerned that vital sponsorship dollars were in jeopardy.

He said a legal wrangle between dumped NSL clubs Parramatta, Heidelberg and

Melbourne SC and Soccer Australia (formerly the Australian Soccer Federation) was threatening sponsorship deals.

The clubs are involved in a court brawl to be reinstated to top flight soccer.

The Federal Court has banned player transfers and the finalisation and publication of the upcoming NSL season fixtures until the row is sorted out in the courts.

"The way we are going we do not know when the season is even starting — it makes things very difficult," he said.

"We are talking to potential major sponsors, but what do we tell them, we do not know about television rights or anything at the moment."

The club has a \$100,000 sponsor lined up, but until the legal fight has been resolved cannot accept the offer.

ROGER DAVID



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Hill asks clubs to think again



Henry Siwka: Wants Victorian clubs reinstated.

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Soccer Australia chairman David Hill again dangled a million dollars as an enticement to clubs to approve a reduced national soccer league.

Hill confirmed his determination to launch a new-look national league as planned on September 30 with 12 teams playing three rounds.

His statement came after a day of discussions with the Victorian Soccer Federation and calls for the NSW Federation to vote against a proposed amendment to reduce the national league from 14 to 12 teams.

NSW Federation president Peter Gray also said last week a NSW board meeting had been brought forward to tomorrow (Wednesday) at which the issue would be discussed as part of the agenda.

"We will be discussing whether to approve a change of articles to switch to a 12 team national competition," he said.

"At the moment though, the main thing is to look at the future of the game in this country and consider the way the sport is suffering through all this court action.

"I'm also disappointed with Parramatta president Sam Vella's comments about our board meeting and I think he should resign.

"He has breached the confidentiality of the board. There should be only one spokesman for soccer in NSW on decisions made in the board room."

VSF chairman Henry Siwka said the meeting last week between Melbourne SC, Heidelberg representatives and Hill had failed to resolve the row which is tearing apart

Australian soccer. Siwka said the VSF wanted the Victorian clubs reinstated and would be voting that way at any meeting.

The Victorian clubs have already won a partial victory with the Federal Court preventing Soccer Australia from promoting any league, which does not include the axed clubs, until the matter is resolved in the courts.

A meeting of Soccer Australia stakeholders will be held on September 13 where 75 per cent of the 60 votes will be needed to approve the amendment.

"Provided we're not frustrated further, we are very close to being able to guarantee a further \$1 million to start the season from a combination of pay-tv and national sponsorship revenue," said Hill.

"This will be enough to guarantee the league against any losses in its first year. The old 14 team NSL had proved to be a hard sell and it would require \$1 million from Soccer Australia to prop up its losses.

"We can't continue to do that. It will send us broke. If we are frustrated in introducing the 12-team competition either by litigation or vote resistance and have to revert to 14 teams, the clubs will have to cover the losses."

Hill said the issue had become a question of whether soccer had the resolve to continue to progress forward or go backwards.

He agreed the current dispute was not good for soccer and was not helping the marketing or selling of sponsorship rights.

The three clubs have taken the issue to court



Australian Soccer Federation

since their application for the new NSL season was rejected.

"We can't do anything, the whole of soccer is frozen. If the stakeholders agree in two weeks then it's over and we can proceed with the September 30 start," said Hill.

"The clubs know a new-look 12 team league is a more bankable proposition than the old NSL. If we get 12 teams, the pay-tv deal is certain although sponsorship is still precarious.

"This dispute is not encouraging. The game is what we should be selling."

David Hill: Confident of a September 30 start.



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NEWCASTLE BREAKERS could be in serious trouble for their first match in the current rich NSW Soccer Federation sponsored Waratah Cup competition.

Newcastle has been drawn in Round Six of the Cup to face the Macarthur Rams at Lynwood Park on Sunday September 10th.

But Newcastle have not got all their playing staff registered.

Because of the current litigation going on between the three expelled NSL clubs (Heidelberg, Melbourne S.C. and Parramatta Eagles) with Soccer Australia, all processing of transfers have been frozen.

Players such as Jason Bennett, John Koch, Stevie Hickman and Craig Sharpley who all want to link up with the Breakers, right now cannot have their transfers to Newcastle processed.

What a mess.

◆◆◆

ADELAIDE CITY's new boss, Johnny Perin will fly his team into Sydney this week-end to play Marconi at the Marconi Stadium on Sunday afternoon.

The two sister clubs over the past few years have religiously staged pre-season 'Challenge Matches' for valuable preparation prior to the League's new season kicking off.

The match kicks off at 2 pm to enable the "Black & Whites" enough time to fly out back to Adelaide on Sunday night.

Last weekend Adelaide City flew to Perth to play a Combined XI in a well-needed hit-out.

The season hasn't started and already Adcity is the most travelled team in the nation.

◆◆◆



Craig Sharpley: Could miss Waratah Cup match.

Speaking of Adelaide City, their former coaching supremo Zoran Matic recently returned to Adelaide with his lovely wife Mira from a well-earned and most enjoyable break on the Greek Islands.

Zoran told us over the weekend: "I was very pleasantly surprised by many things over there, especially the taxi drivers.

"I had heard repeated stories of how the

cabbies there tend to rip off the unaware tourists.

"Not so.

"The Greek Islands were marvellous but the island of Santorini is by far the very best.

◆◆◆
THE NSW SOCCER FEDERATION will be holding its Black tie annual Presentation Night on Friday September 15th at the Bellevue Lounge in Bankstown.

What odds are there on who will snatch the "Player Of The Year" award?

◆◆◆
ST GEORGE BSC next month will host

and stage an unusual promotion.

The Saints will play hosts to two visiting Japanese Old Boys teams.

So what's the big deal?

They are NOT Over 35s as is most common.

The first is a team of Over 55s.

But wait...there's more. — much more as the guy with the steak knives would say on the tele.

The second team is an Over 70s side.

Can you believe this?

Make no joke as the Jap Over 70s side travel regularly all over Europe playing exhibition matches and in fact are all able to make it back to the 'Land Of The Rising Toyota'.

Further still, the 'top scorer' in the 'age-stakes' is an 80-year-old we are told.

But "Good Oil" hesitated just a little when St George officials informed us that this 80-year-old prefers to play wide and UPFRONT!!!

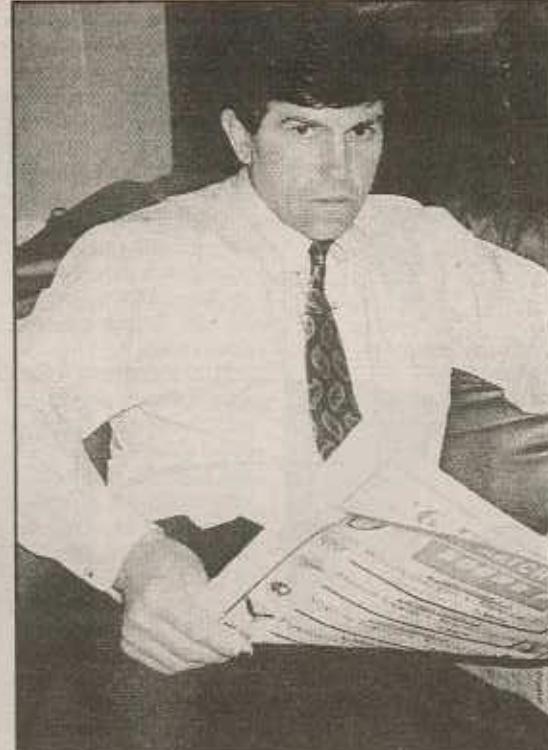
These veteran Japanese players are all businessmen or politicians who belong to this elite "Old Boys" Soccer network.

The Saints however are struggling to assemble such a 'matured' side.

St George president Les ("SBS") Murray and even former Saints skipper, Johnny Warren are both far too young to make the age-limit.

Even our entire Board of Commissioners at Soccer Australia are all far too young to offer their undoubted assistance to lace up a pair of boots to help out the concerned St George.

Some of the well-weathered, but today not so glossy-haloed Saints rounded-up to date to play for the



Zoran Matic: Back from the Mediterranean.

'Junior' (Over 55s side, are former great Budapest and St George players such as:

Joe Csardas, Joe Vasvari, Les Schauman, George Kovacs, Frank Laing, (player-coach) Joe Pompor, Peter Fuzes, Frank Aranyi, Ilja Takacs, Alan Hillhouse.

The two matches will be played at the St George Stadium on Monday, September 11th with starting times at 3.30pm and 4.20pm.

Team-manager will be Mr Fritz Adelmann who stressed to "Good Oil" over the weekend there will be NO LIMIT to the number of subs.

Well known Soccer coach Richard Alagich will be in charge of 'warming-up' the St George squad.

Major sponsors for these matches are rumoured to be 'DENCORUB'.

◆◆◆
DAVID RATCLIFFE, Sydney Olympic's new boss is fast getting into shape his new NSL squad.

The former World Cup tenacious centre-back is quietly excited about one or two youngsters that he has dragged into his first squad.

One (Ivo De Jesus) is a 17-year-old who according to "Bronson" looks extremely comfortable on the ball.

Another is 18-year-old defender (Ralph Bove) who appears to have great composure.

Olympic will play Frank Arok's South Melbourne on Sunday evening at Belmore Oval in a friendly hit-out.

◆◆◆

LEICHHARDT TIGERS SOCCER CLUB will stage their Annual Gala Ball Dinner on Friday October 13th at the Apia Club.

A star-studded

Australia hosted the World YOUTH Championship.

◆◆◆

MIRON BLEIBERG, Brisbane Lions coach, in the Queensland State League, emphatically believes that his club is run as professionally as most of the clubs that are in the NSL.

Bleiberg boasted proudly: "The Lions not only have good facilities and many good intelligent people on board, but have various sponsorships tallying some \$100,000."

◆◆◆

LAST Saturday night in the Media Room at Marconi Stadium, during the Charity match between Marconi and Sydney United, Marconi's quietly-spoken Soccer Secretary Mr Frank Scicluna was reflecting on a horrific incident that happened in Saudi Arabia recently.

Mr Scicluna who travelled with Australia's Olympic Games squad to Saudi Arabia for a one-off match against the Saudi national side, was telling to the total amazement of a small group, how he and many of the Aussie Olympic players watched



Daniel Allsopp: Winner of the "Golden Boot".



Ned Zelic: Made his QPR debut last Saturday.

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Johnny Warren: Far too young to make the Saints side.

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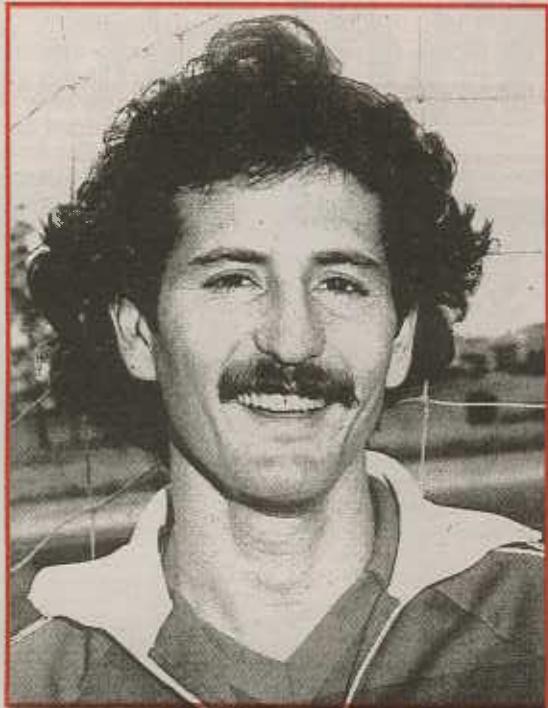
in horror a public execution by way of beheading.

The stressed Scicluna summarised to a by now cathedral-silent Media Room, how Saudi's still carried out medieval-style killings with the executioner (a masked swordsman) bringing down his huge lethal weapon across the neck of the convicted criminal.

A large crowd had gathered in the public place to witness this most gruesome human-slaughter which understandably terrified and left all the Australian players feeling sick.

Mr Scicluna in solemnly ending his story, added that the day after the Australian squad was due to depart Taif City, a much bigger crowd was anticipated for another such barbaric killing of a human by means of beheading and he could just not fathom why.

That's when an unnamed journo laconically quipped in to suggest: "Maybe it was going to be a double-



Who is this man? See story below.

header...?"

◆◆◆

NED ZELIC, Sydney Olympic's former stylistic sweeper, made his debut in English football last Saturday with his new club, Queens Park Rangers.

◆◆◆

QPR defeated Manchester City at Loftus Road 1-0 in front of a crowd of 14,212.

NED ZELIC: Made his debut with QPR last Saturday.

◆◆◆

WOLLONGONG CITY are set to sign up star Kiwi international midfielder, Simon Elliott.

Elliott who toured South America with New Zealand's national squad last month has already trialled with Wollongong.

But there is a slight problem for Elliott who also is keen to complete his studies at Victoria University in New Zealand.

Coach Berti Mariani seemed very pleased with what he saw of Elliott.

Berti Mariani: But this time as he looks today.

◆◆◆

This photo (above) was taken some 17 years back.

Can anyone guess who it is?

One clue.

He currently coaches an NSL side.

Yep..It's none other than Wollongong City's Berti Mariani as a young player whilst at Marconi.

◆◆◆

ANISSA TANN from SOCCER NSW informs "Good Oil" she would very much like as many people as possible to come to the St George Stadium this Friday to watch a feast of Cup Finals.

Heading the Finals Menu is the Final of the "Snickers" NSW Under 15s Girls Shield.

The two Finalists are Gymea High and Westfields Sports High.

Kick-off is set down for 4.30pm.

Next on the card is the final of the Commonwealth Bank Shield (Girls) at 6pm where the two Finalists are Westfields Sports



Frank Scicluna: At barbaric killing.

High and Pennant Hills High.

The boys' Commonwealth Bank Cup Final at the same venue with an 8pm kick-off is between Westfields Sports High clashing with Sydney Technical High.

Westfields Sports High, coached by Sydney Olympic's NSW captain, Davie Barrett, have won this Cup the last two years and will be flat out to make it a hat-trick of victories on Friday night.

◆◆◆

SYDNEY UNITED last Saturday night defeated Marconi 3-1 in a penalty shoot-out at the Marconi Stadium in a fund-raising match for the Spastic Centre.

Both squads, as well as the four match officials, kindly donated all match fees towards the building fund for the construction of the Fairfield Marconi Spastic Centre.

After Sudden-Death extra-time, the scores were still locked in at 1-1.

Sydney United opened the score with a penalty three minutes into the second half from captain and sweeper, Tony Popovic.

But Marconi's tenacious new skipper and sweeper, Jean Paul De Marigny 'balanced the books' just seconds before the 90 minute mark.

With no goals in Sudden-death extra-time, the match was decided by a penalty shoot-out.

De Marigny, Luke Casserly and Aron Holst all missed with their shots whilst only newly signed defender Robbie Stanton scored for Marconi.

United's penalty scorers were David Zdrilic, Ante Moric, and



John Howard: Special guest at Leichhardt Tigers annual gala ball dinner.

another new signing, Robbie Trajkovski to give United the special trophy 3-1.

United's outstanding international blond centre-back, Mark Babic, after heavily colliding with Marconi's right

midfielder Luke Casserly, had to leave the pitch in the 14th minute with a wound across the bridge of his nose.

Babic after the match confirmed to "Good Oil" that his nose was not broken, thankfully.



Miron Bleiberg: Proud coach of Brisbane Lions.

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ALLSOPP WEIGHS UP OPTIONS

BY JEFF TURNBULL OF AAP

Young Australian soccer star Daniel Allsopp has the world at his feet with offers to play in England as well as being pursued by National Soccer League clubs in Australia.

But the 17-year-old, who won the prestigious Golden Boot award at the recent under 17 world junior championship in Ecuador, is playing it more cautiously than he does on the soccer pitch.

Instead of rushing off to English premier league club Southampton to take up the month trial offer or join Melbourne Knights or South Melbourne who are both seeking his signature, Allsopp is continuing to weigh up his options.

"I'm looking at soccer as my career so I want to think carefully about what I do," Allsopp said last week.

"I have to look at what's in my best interest and try to get a contract that suits me."

Striker Allsopp grabbed the Golden

Boot award by notching five of the Joeys six goals in their run to the quarter-finals in Ecuador.

Allsopp has already targeted playing for Australia in the under 20 world championship in Malaysia in 1997 and so appears to have ruled out moving overseas at this early stage.

"I will try and get into an NSL club but the important thing is getting the right contract," he said.

"I do want to play overseas eventually because that's where the money is, so I don't want to sign anything that'll keep me here indefinitely."

His role model is Melbourne Knights and Australian striker Mark Viduka whose career he would like to emulate.

"I look at him and see that he's done it all," said Allsopp.

"He's played in the under 20s and has done virtually everything in Australian soccer that I want to do."

He's never met the Croatia-based Viduka but the odds are that the two will become team-mates in future Socceroo teams.

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What happens? The game self-destructs as it is torn apart by ethno-political self-interest.

When, oh when will it end? I think three messages are pertinent to three different parties.

First, to Heidelberg, Melbourne SC and Parramatta — stop it! We cannot advertise, let alone get a starting date for the NSL.

Is your court case doing soccer any favours? Legal semantics aside, as an example, let us take the case of Heidelberg (which incidentally appears watertight).

Your recent playing record is abysmal, your facilities a disgrace and your administration farcical.

The big thing in your favour is your apparent God-given right to be in the NSL.

Let us not quibble over your \$100,000 taxation bill.

These trivialities notwithstanding, you along with the other two clubs were voted out at the extra-ordinary meeting of the stakeholders.

All three clubs are NOT wanted. For the good of the game: Take your bats and balls and go home!

Second, to those academics at The Greek Herald (ABSW 15/8) you run down and call for the resignation of Mr Hill.

At last Australian (and I emphasise the word Australian) soccer has a leader who has a vision and courage, is willing to make decisions for the good of the game and does not give in to self-interested minorities.

Give him a chance!

Your sole purpose seems to be to defend "migrant clubs" and not to further soccer in this country.

So Greek Herald, for the good of the game: crawl into a very deep hole and come out only when you have a positive contribution to make!

Third, to Mr Hill, hang in there, please! Your sins may be many (trying to lift the profile of the game, increasing media coverage, getting a major sponsor, increasing matches with a view to future professionalism et al.)

But in the long run I'm sure your detractors will forgive you. For the good of the game sir: Don't let your critics get you down!

Stephen Plummer, Caloundra, Qld.

GOALIE WANTED FOR DEAF TEAM

Dear Sir,
I am writing to you seeking if you would be able to assist my federation as we are looking for a player and Goal-keeper for the Australian Deaf Team which will compete at the Fifth Asia Pacific Games for the Deaf at Kuala Lumpur on 29th March — 6th April, 1996.

The Australian Deaf Team Squad had their National training camp at (NSW Soccer Federation) Parklea in June where the final selection was announced of 16 players and since then our top Goal-keeper has had a bad injury and will not be able to compete at the Asia Pacific Games. We are looking for a Goal-keeper and other players too.

Any players may consider to join our Team must be deaf with at least 55db loss hearing.

Graham Home
Secretary/Treasurer
Deaf Soccer
Federation of Australia
Fax 07 3279 1986.

Letters to the Editor

Have your say on any soccer issue in the world. Preference will be given to short letters. Include daytime phone number for verification.



The opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect those of this newspaper

The Editor,
**AUSTRALIAN &
BRITISH SOCCER
WEEKLY**
PO BOX 146,
BROADWAY
NSW 2007
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(02) 660-7485

Head in the sand

Dear Sir,

I have just finishing reading the Greek Herald article which appeared on page four of last week's issue and to say the least I am offended.

I am also a migrant of non Anglo Saxon background and I follow the Brisbane Strikers along with a few thousand other multicultural Aussies.

I believe that the Greek Herald's emotional attack upon the very people who are trying to lift the profile of this wonderful game is unwarranted. The Greek Herald should be fully behind them to get the League started soon and not embark on a tangent which does nothing for the integrity of that publication.

I have been involved

with football for 30 years and during that time us migrants have run the game.

Where is it today? In a blackhole!

Yes, Mr Negus is right, the game must be taken to all Australians and not just a select few like the writer of the article you have printed seems to suggest.

I dare you to run a survey for a few weeks and you will be surprised by what migrants like me want.

We want the total elimination from the running of the game of people with tunnel vision, and in my view the writer of your Editorial is one.

The real fans don't want inefficient amateurs anymore, we want the current board of

AUSTRALIA and they have my full support (the survey will unearth hundreds more) to rid the game of its rubbish and to inject prosperity and professionalism into the world game in this country.

The dumping of the three clubs in question was the right start.

I say to the migrant community let's not take the victim attitude because someone with an anglo saxon name is cleaning the sport of its self inflicted sores but instead let's get behind Mr Hill to get the game where it should be, that is, into the main stream of sport in this country.

To the Greek Herald I say, get your head out of the sand, the time is right.

Serge Armansin,
Everton Hills, Qld.

Give them a reason to stay

Dear Sir,

I recently read Frank Arok's comments on the player drain of players going overseas without even setting foot in the National competition.

It is not hard to understand why a small number of locally based talented players feel compelled to try their luck overseas.

We have a National competition which lacks any real initiative or excitement for both players and spectators, there are not many opportunities for our best young players to get constant first team exposure at NSL Level, we have an uncertain future of our National competition, we have to endure the same tiresome old coaches who have done little to make the local competition worthwhile to watch or play in for the talented young players.

On top of all this the talented young players are not going to wait around waiting for peanuts when they possibly stand a chance of improving their individual skills and making a decent living in the progress by going overseas.

It's time Frank Arok and other so called senior coaches in this country took a good hard look at themselves and ask the following questions to themselves:

Q1. How can I as a senior coach contribute to actual development of Australian based youngsters.

Q2. How can I as a senior coach identify players with talent and follow their progress up until the time that they reach their full potential.

Q3. What can I do as a senior coach to ensure that our talented players are encouraged to spend their development years in the National League.

Some answers to these questions may be a national talent identification and drafting scheme where our best juniors are identified and drafted to NSL clubs as apprentices to their nearest NSL club, before they get the travelling bug.

Within their rights to snap up talented players from all over the world, he should work with all the other current senior coaches in the NSL to identify all our best young players and lay down some positive plans to stem the player drain he is so concerned about.

Just imagine a National League that was loaded with exciting and talented young players never seen by the spectators, who effectively keep the National competition.

Give these guys more exposure and recognition and they would be cracking their neck to stay and play.

Give them a reason to stay in Australia.
Marcel Poeder, Hurstville, NSW.

Answers not criticism

Dear Sir,

I've just read the editorial from the Greek Herald that appeared in ABSW's edition from August 15.

Character assassinations of Messre's Hill and Negus must be on the menus at all the Greek restaurant's in Melbourne.

Feeding yourselves on your own fears, knowing full well that the medicine Mr Hill is dishing out, although not to your liking, is the medicine that this game needs to take it out of the hands of narrow minded tortured souls who expound their virtues of "what we've done for the game" and of course "what you haven't done for the game."

For the life of me I fail to see what you've actually done. Do I see soccer plastered all over the pages of sporting magazines or newspapers, do I see hours of TV devoted to the game, do I hear radio programs expounding the virtues of our wonderful sport — well no — and it's not just a little no — it's a damn big NO — a no that says to me the Editor of the Greek Herald has done bugger all in promoting soccer to the greater Australian population.

They didn't have the knowledge or will power to change the direction of the ASF or NSL and make it into a commercially viable business. They certainly had the best product going around and yet they couldn't sell it to the greater Australian community.

Why? Could it be that they were being torn apart from within by exactly the same type of people who bury their heads in the sand, demand, no change, and then write such ridiculous editorials that appear in the Greek Herald.

Sports such as rugby league, basketball, rugby union, Aussie Rules forge ahead for no good reason and etc. — all these problems

created by Mr Hill and his cohort in crime Mr Negus.

Tsk, Tsk Mr Hill how dare you touch the Holy Grail of organisation, the symbol of sound business and management that is the ASF and NSL.

Contrary to this notion, up until the last few years the "ASF" has been the bastion of ignorance and ineptitude, a political and business dinosaur that has been unable to make decisions let alone carry them through and has bowed to criticism from the likes of the "Editor of the Greek Herald".

Few people would argue that those involved in the ASF during this time were hard working, honest people with the best intentions, but they were not businessmen.

They didn't have the knowledge or will power to change the direction of the ASF or NSL and make it into a commercially viable business. They certainly had the best product going around and yet they couldn't sell it to the greater Australian community.

To say the article was appalling is an understatement. The article was not only offensive to Mr Hill but thousands of other Australians — the silent majority who for too long have watched the ethnic clubs — use their clubs as political tools hidden behind the facade of "we're a football club." The bastardization of soccer would be complete if left in the hands of them they certainly do not have the God given right to demand anything — they do not give answers, just criticism.

Stephen Preedy,
Merewether, NSW.

yet soccer flounders way behind.

There are basically just two reasons for this:

- i) poor marketing skills
- ii) an even poorer product to market

When I say an even poorer product to market I'm not talking about soccer itself — I'm talking about the clubs involved. So many are ethnic dominated — who could forget the sight of a Nazi flag at the final of the NSL a few years back or the chant of Croatia going off in the background in last year's final.

What a wonderful advertisement for the premier soccer competition in Australia. Does the Editor of the Greek Herald have a solution for this problem — I bet he does but he's not going to say it publicly.

To say the article was appalling is an understatement. The article was not only offensive to Mr Hill but thousands of other Australians — the silent majority who for too long have watched the ethnic clubs — use their clubs as political tools hidden behind the facade of "we're a football club." The bastardization of soccer would be complete if left in the hands of them they certainly do not have the God given right to demand anything — they do not give answers, just criticism.

Stephen Preedy,
Merewether, NSW.

KEEP YOUR NOSE OUT!

Dear Sir,

ABSW articles are usually very informative and make for enjoyable reading. Balanced views and straight facts are why so many people enjoy this publication.

BUT...on Tuesday, August 15 I was speechless and appalled by the 'article' that was on page 4. The gutter article which I am referring to is of course the comment written by the "Greek Herald".

The views portrayed by the "Greek Herald" are one eyed, paranoid and extremely archaic to say the least. The article tries to stipulate that Mr Hill and Co. wish to perform an ethnic soccer genocide for their own benefit. This is total utter RUBBISH! The recurring theme that I picked up in the article is that Mr Hill is somehow being racist. The analogy made to compare Mr Hill as a "Hilter" is absolutely disgraceful. What warrants this attack on the ASF?

Is it that the "Greek Herald" fear that the "ethnic" power base will be eroded? Or is it that finally the real issues are being examined? What are they afraid of?

They CHOOSE to ignore the real issues of why the National Soccer League is the "black hole" of Australian soccer. The "black hole" being the lack of impact the NSL has made in spectator terms as an attractive package. David Hill wants to bring Australian soccer into mainstream Australian society. What is wrong with that? ABSOLUTELY NOTHING.

"Greek Herald" understand this:

As you are aware, the backbone of the NSL was built upon the clubs who were formed by migrants who sacrificed a lot of money and hard work to get the NSL off the ground and make it 'work'.

The contribution by all these people will NEVER BE FORGOTTEN. Migrant backed clubs have contributed many great names to Australian soccer, THIS WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN. Being of Greek parentage I

am proud and grateful of the Greek migrants who established South Melbourne, as are the Croatian migrants who established the Melbourne Knights etc. etc. Are these the aspects that Mr Hill perceives as problems? Answer: NO!

The PROBLEM is the non-soccer-related ethnic-driven, petty rivalries which are KILLING the NSL. The PROBLEM of club administrators which are more concerned with flying the flag of another country rather than OUR country.

Club administrators MUST realise that their job is to cater for ALL Australian sports fans FULLSTOP. Sports fans which do not want another country's flag shoved in their face. No one is saying to disband the current loyal fans, but rather to EXPAND the support base.

Must you pit a battle between the "migrant teams" and the "anglosaxon teams". This "us versus them" mentality must cease. David Hill is no more or less Australian than you or I. The simple message is this — AUSTRALIAN SOCCER IS FOR EVERYONE. So please stop your paranoid propaganda that there is a hidden agenda to get rid of the "migrants".

Tell me this "Greek Herald" why should the 'migrants be infuriated'? I am certainly not 'infuriated'. On the contrary, the Hill administration has given me hope.

Hope that soccer will become this nation's number one sport. I speak of 'hope' as Mr Hill has not yet delivered anything to us. It is far too early to either applaud or criticise the new revamped administration. Rather they have painted us a bright picture of what the future CAN hold. They now need to start to deliver.

So in concluding I wish to suggest to the "Greek Herald" to leave their biased, hard lined self-centred views to their own paper and NOT stick their noses where they are NOT WELCOME.

Leon Keramatis, East Doncaster, Vic.

TASIOS HOPE FOR SOUTH

BY CON STAVROS

South Melbourne's revamped squad for this season may feature an old favourite in Steve Tasios.

After succumbing to a spate of injuries last season and calling it quits, the popular midfielder with the silky skills is back in training and seriously considering a comeback.



Steve Tasios: Comeback.

No work permit for Kalac

While it's not quite a lottery, Britain's work permit system for Australian and other overseas sportsmen does appear to contain anomalies.

Socceroo goalkeeper Zeljko Kalac can certainly feel a little aggrieved that the British Department of Employment has refused him a permit to play for Leicester City.

With his international record, Kalac would probably have walked in if he'd been a cricketer or rugby league player, the British sports that traditionally provide the most employment for Australians.

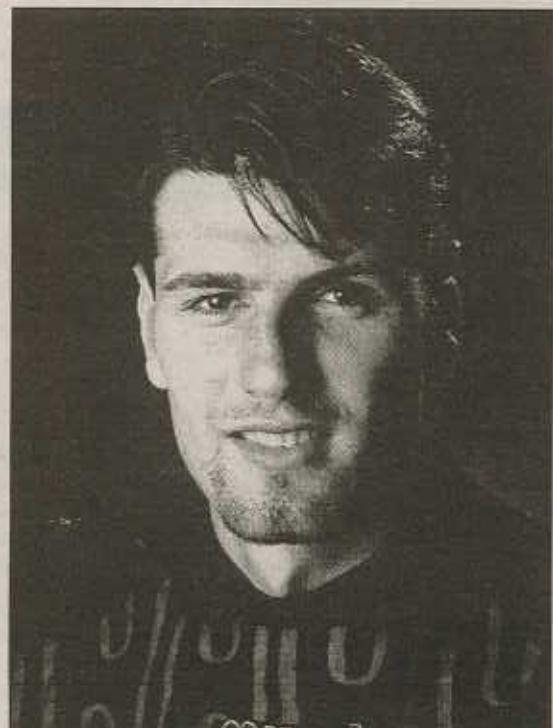
The system, in principle the same as Australia's, is meant to protect the jobs of British sportsmen.

What matters first and most is ancestry. Holding a passport from a European Union country means a player can just walk in.

Among Australians, this is most likely to help footballers.

Steve Corica, who's also joining Leicester, has an Italian passport; Stan Lazarides, who's going to West Ham, has a Greek one.

Robbie Slater, who's just joined West Ham from Blackburn, has no problems



Zeljko Kalac: Can feel a little aggrieved.

because he's got a British passport. Even having a British grandparent is usually sufficient.

Kalac, on the face of it, was in the same position as Socceroo midfielder Ned Zelic, who's signed with Queens Park Rangers from Borussia Dortmund.

Having no ancestry claims, they and their new clubs had to persuade the Employment Department they were of higher calibre than anyone available locally.

The general rule to "prove" this is that they'd played in at least 75 per cent of their home country's internationals in the past two years.

Their employment must

BOUTSIANIS BLAST FROM AROK

BY CON STAVROS

Score one to South Melbourne coach Frank Arok in the escalating war with club winger Con Boutsianis.

Arok, who is incensed that Boutsianis inexplicably failed to show up for pre-season training, has declared he no longer has any interest in signing the speedy goalscorer for the coming season, despite Boutsianis' plea to return.

Using the daily press for what seemed to be a calculated blast at the attitude of Boutsianis, Arok stated that he was targeting a replacement who was a "fast, left-sided player with heart".

"He just disappeared," said Arok of Boutsianis' failure to report to the club.

"He did not return one single phone call, it's very hard to know whether he is fair dinkum."

Boutsianis was widely tipped to be signing with a Greek club in the last few months and put his absence from training down to some personal things he wanted to take care of.

The Greek transfer season re-opens on December 1 and Boutsianis is hopeful of being picked up then by the Iraklis team.

Out of contract, Boutsianis was said to be keen to renegotiate his terms prior to commencing training, despite the usual South Melbourne practice of negotiation throughout the pre-season process.



Con Boutsianis: Has fallen out with Frank Arok.

Adelaide to host Olympic qualifiers

The Australian Under 23 team's hopes of competing at next year's Atlanta Olympics have been boosted by a decision to give the Olyroos home advantage for January's Oceania qualifiers.

An Oceania Football Confederation (OFC) official in New Zealand said last week he OFC had selected Australia to host the five-nation tournament involving New Zealand, Tahiti, Fiji and Vanuatu.

Soccer Australia had voted on Adelaide as the venue for Australia's bid.

The OFC considered submissions relating to hotel accommodation, ground facilities and ease of travel.

Auckland was originally picked as host but New Zealand pulled out in April because of financial problems.

The news is a timely boost to the Olyroos who were comprehensively beaten 3-0 by their Saudi Arabia counterparts in a friendly in Taif City last Friday.

OFC official Anne King said the winner of the round-robin tournament would play the second placed team from the north and central American CONCACAF group in a two-leg play-off in May for a place at the Olympics.

"New Zealand was originally selected as the country with the best financial package but after Auckland pulled out Australia won the vote," King said.

"New Zealand soccer has been going through a period of transition and they decided it wasn't the right time for them to hold this tournament."

South Australian Soccer Federation official Monique Hillier said all matches would be played at Adelaide City's 12,000-capacity Hindmarsh Stadium from January 13 to 31.

Nations will play every opponent twice in the 20-game tournament contested as 10 double-header matches.

This will give home supporters the chance to see Australia in action on eight of the 10 competition days.

Soccer Australia spokesman Scott Crebbin said Wollongong had entered a bid for the Olympic qualifying tournament following its staging of an international double-header early this year involving under-23 teams from Australia, Japan, South Korea and Denmark.

"Adelaide put forward the better financial package," Crebbin said.

Olyroo deputy coach Les Scheinflug said the team's overseas-based players — Glasgow Rangers defender Craig Moore, Dynamo Zagreb striker Mark Viduka, Bristol City striker Paul Agostino and Nottingham Forest midfielder Anthony Carbone — would be released by their clubs seven days before the opening qualifying match.

The CONCACAF group includes Mexico, Honduras, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Canada, Barbados, Bermuda, Cuba and Puerto Rico. The US automatically qualifies as Olympic host nation.

The Olyroos came fourth at the Barcelona Olympics after beating Holland in the final two-leg qualifying round. Australia missed out on a bronze medal after losing 1-0 to Ghana in the third and fourth place play-off.

How many teams?

NUMBERS suggested have varied from 8 to 20! Opinions vary upon whether the person supports a particular team or just wishes to see an excellent game. How many teams should be in one city? Let us look at the different ways to calculate the best number of teams that should be in the NSL.

STANDARD OF NSL

How many teams are the excellent players distributed amongst? How many weak teams should play in the NSL? Looking at this consideration and assuming no influx or exodus of players, it is obvious that the fewer the teams in the league the higher the standard of the league. The super league problems in Australian Rules, Rugby League and Rugby Union involves an increase in standard with a reduction of teams. This has brought forward the plans of mergers in both Australian Rules in Melbourne and Rugby League in Sydney.

CASUAL FAN

Although the avid fan will support one of the ethnic teams, the casual fan will only go to a high calibre game. Although rugby league is the most popular sport in NSW, the Sydney Morning Herald (July 3, 1995) reported that the Australian rules crowd of 21,853 was almost double the best rugby league crowd of the day in Sydney. This date indicates that a single team in a geographic area will draw more fans than multiple teams over the same geographic area.



OVERSEAS LEAGUE SIZES

Let us look at the smallest and largest leagues in Europe. Switzerland with an eight team league is rated 13 by FIFA, whereas England with a 22 team league is rated 21 by FIFA (ABSW June 21 1995). Such numbers suggest that the national team suffers if the few excellent players are spread amongst a large number of teams.

The reason is that playing with weak team mates against weak teams does not improve the play of the superior players; however, the playing of strong teams with strong team-mates does improve their play.

Another reason the better players desire to play in the stronger leagues.

EUROPEAN LEAGUE SIZE TRENDS

England has decided to reduce their league from 22 teams to 20 teams for the 1995/1996 season. Previously, they reduced the size to 20 teams, but reverted back to 22. Other leagues to be reduced in size lately include Scotland, which is now down to 10 teams.

Austria also reduced the size of the league from 16 to

10, 12, 14, or 20...

How many teams should make up the National Soccer League (A League?) is arguably the most controversial subject in Australian soccer today. In this story long-time soccer fan and Central Coast resident Dr. Peter Bayliss lists the for and against arguments for the different-sized competitions.

10 teams, then went back to 16 before finally reducing the size to 10 teams. Switzerland also had a 16 team league before reducing it to eight teams; however, it has now been increased to 12.

This shows that the reduction in the number of teams can be done; however, there are changes up and down due to political pressure from clubs that desire to play in the top league. But, the overall trend is downwards.

POPULATION DIVIDED BY THE NUMBER OF TEAMS

England, which does not include Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, has a population at about 44 million with a 20 team league. This ratio 44/20 gives 2.2 million population per team.

Using this ratio for an Australian population of about 18 million would produce about an eight team league.

Other large countries like Germany, Italy and Spain

have higher ratios (greater populations and less teams), which suggests less teams.

Smaller countries like Switzerland have a smaller ratio with about an eight million population with eight teams. This ratio 8/8 gives 1 million population per team; however, there is no other major sport except skiing so that soccer has a dominant position in the entertainment field unlike Australia.

SELECTION OF NATIONAL TEAM

Ghana series had players from eight Australian clubs, whereas the previous series against Japan and Columbia had players from nine Australian clubs. With the further exodus of players for European clubs, this number looks like it will fall in the near future. Therefore, the national team can operate successfully with a small number of teams in the national league.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

In order to maximize the

number of fans that can attend matches, the games should be spread over as wide a geographic area as possible.

Areas that can maintain a club are distributed in the larger population areas. These appear to be as follows: Perth, Adelaide, Morwell, Melbourne, Canberra, Wollongong, Sydney, Newcastle and Brisbane, which is a total of nine. Other possibilities include Auckland and Singapore.

8 TEAM LEAGUE OPTIONS

A triple home and away series would produce six rounds against seven teams to produce a 42 game season. This is probably too many games as shown by the reduction of teams in England.

The next possibility is a double home and away series, which would produce four rounds against seven teams to give a 28 game season.

This is probably to few as shown by the desire to

increase the number of games for next season, which has been rumoured as three rounds against 11 teams for a 33 game season.

The best possibility is to have two divisions with four teams in each division. A double home and away series against every team and a home and away series against each team in the same division would result in $4 \times 7 + 2 \times 3$, which gives a 34 game season.

A number almost identical to the presently suggested number of 33 games.

FOREIGN TEAMS

The introduction of one or two foreign teams such as Auckland and Singapore could allow the league to be 10 teams.

A possible arrangement to give the same number of games per season of 34 is as follows: A single home and away round robin against each team and a double home and away round robin against each team in the division, which is $2 \times 9 + 4 \times 4$.



ETHNIC TEAMS

A reduction in the number of teams to one in each geographic location would reduce the ethnic problem as the team would have to cater for the whole population rather than an ethnic segment.

The team, which would be proud of their ethnic origin like many teams in Europe and South America, must look to the future and expand their support amongst all ethnic groups and Australians.

PROFESSIONAL LEAGUE

Present estimates indicate that there are only three teams (Adelaide City, South Melbourne and Marconi-Fairfield) that could field a professional team.

Other countries that have tried an eight team professional league are Canada and South Korea.

CONCLUSION

The recent reduction of the league from 14 to 12 teams is more than supported by this analysis. The future may mean an eight team professional league and an eight team semi-professional league.

WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES

Michael Curcija scored a hat-trick to lead Australia to a 4-1 thrashing of Brazil last Saturday and secured a place in the quarter-finals in the World Student Games tournament.

Curcija, the hero in last Tuesday's victory against the 1993 Games bronze medallists Britain, shot a 28th-minute equalizer with a penalty and another penalty in the 41st.

Forward James Aschner, who produced a heading chance for Curcija's hat-trick in the 51st minute, completed the scoring in the 59th minute when he dribbled through for home.

With the win, Australia, which was bottom at 16th in Buffalo two years ago, finished second earning four points from two wins, no draws and one defeat in Group D and advanced to the next round with Ukraine, a 2-1 winner over Britain, to stand with a 2-1-0 record.

Top two finishers from four preliminary groups moved into the quarter-finals, with host Japan, South Africa, Iran, the Czech Republic, South Korea and Russia also advancing.

Michael Curcija: Aussie student hero.



Australia scored a surprise opening day victory in the 16-nation tournament at the World University Games last week. Australia downed Britain 2-1 in Pool D thanks to goals from Paul Roberts, who is based in the United States at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, and Michael Curcija.

The Australians won despite being forced onto the defensive for long periods by a British team that got its second-half goal from Andrew Mainwaring. The defending champion Czech Republic was held to a 1-1 draw and Nigeria's squad failed to arrive. The 16 teams are divided into four groups for the round-robin first-round competition, with the top two teams in each advancing to the quarter-finals. The quarter-finals are scheduled for August 28 with the semi-finals on August 30 and the final September 2.

GROUP A

Japan	3	South Africa	2
Canada	0	Slovakia	0
Japan	1	Canada	1
South Africa	4	Slovakia	3
Japan	5	Slovakia	2
South Africa	2	Canada	1

STANDINGS

1. Japan	3	2	1	0	9	5	5
2. South Africa	3	2	0	1	8	7	4
3. Canada	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
4. Slovakia	3	0	1	2	5	5	1

GROUP B

Ireland	1	Uruguay	1
Czech Republic	1	Iran	1

Czech Republic	3	Uruguay	0
Iran	3	Ireland	2
Czech Republic	2	Ireland	2
Iran	3	Uruguay	0

STANDINGS

1. Iran	3	2	1	0	7	3	5
2. Czech	3	1	2	0	6	3	4
3. Ireland	3	0	2	1	5	6	2
4. Uruguay	3	0	1	2	1	7	1

GROUP C

Russia	2	USA	0
South Korea	3	USA	1
Russia	3	Nigeria	0
South Korea	0	Russia	0
USA	2	Nigeria	1
South Korea	3	Nigeria	0

STANDINGS

1. South Korea	3	2	1	0	6	1	5
2. Czech	3	1	2	0	6	3	4
3. Ireland	3	0	2	1	5	6	2
4. Uruguay	3	0	1	2	1	7	1

GROUP D

Russia	2	USA	0
South Korea	3	USA	1
Russia	3	Nigeria	0
South Korea	0	Russia	0
USA	2	Nigeria	1
South Korea	3	Nigeria	0

STANDINGS

1. South Korea	3	2	1	0	6	1	5

</tbl

Dolphins swim for 'double'

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

JOHN KOSMINA's Warringah Dolphins and Ken Schembri's Blacktown City, the two heavyweights of the NSW Super League, clash on Saturday night at the Marconi Stadium at 7pm in the Grand Final.

Blacktown City have experienced Grand Finals before whilst this will be the Dolphins first entry.

Former Australian World Cup captain Kosmina, stated last night: "The Dolphins have only been going for four odd years and this being their first Grand Final, Saturday night will be a big occasion for us."

"Blacktown City have

contested Grand Finals before and obviously this will stand them in good stead.

"Although I have always firmly believed that 'first-past-the-post' is what counts all over the world, I can understand grand finals are an institution and thus important in Australia and I certainly would like to win one of them," said Kosmina.

"Blacktown City are a good and well balanced side and are mentally tough.

"They had to be to survive their two successive sudden-death matches against Leichhardt Tigers and Canterbury Berries."

Kosmina added: "Blacktown will be much

stronger on Saturday night as they will have all their players back from suspension.

"As far as we are concerned, we still have a few niggling knocks but they should all clear up by Saturday."

"Our striker Jason Bennett is recovering well from a nasty ankle injury and should be O.K. to play," ended Kosmina.

The Dolphins who have already won the minor championship were rewarded last Friday night by a local pub, the Dee Why Hotel with a small function after training.

Mr Pasquale ('Pat') Barbalace the managing director of construction complex, Lamio Building and the Dolphins' Director of Soccer, proudly stated to ABSW: "Jason Bennett has been excellent for the Dolphins this season, but thankfully he was not alone.

"Many other people such as Craig Sharpley, Stevie Hickman, Matthew Bloomfield and of course our well experienced libero Johnny Koch have all been a tower of strength for us all season.

"One of the main reasons for our success this season besides John's excellent coaching, has



Dolphins' Director of Soccer, Pat Barbalace, raises his drink in salute to Club coach, John Kosmina last Friday night at a special function staged by the Dee Why Hotel in Brookvale in honour of the Dolphins' winning the minor championship of NSW.

been the very strong and wonderful team-spirit that has existed throughout the season.

"The players all play

for one another and get on very, very well together.

"It has been a good year for the Dolphins and

we would very much like to progress from here and not stay in the same spot," ended Mr Barbalace.

The Dolphins will hold their annual Presentation Night on September 29th at 'Valentine House' at Brookvale.

COMMONWEALTH BANK BILL TURNER CUP

INTEREST IS THE HIGHEST EVER

Interest in this years Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup final series is the highest for many years.

Lambton High of Newcastle making it through to the play-offs has been an added bonus.

Macquarie Field, Speers Point will be buzzing on Tuesday night September 5 when the semi-finals will be decided.

See four school squads will have been welcomed to the City of Lake Macquarie by Mayor John Kilpatrick at a Civic Reception in the Council Chambers at 10.30am attended by soccer and other sporting dignitaries plus the media.

First match on Tuesday evening will see Westfields Sports High School from Sydney meet head on with this years brilliant NSW South Coast side Holy Spirit College, Bellambi at 6pm.

At 7.30pm local boys Lambton High clash with the outstanding Central Queensland giant killers Yeppoon State High.

A number of pundits are suggesting that these two fixtures could well turn out to be the most outstanding match ups of the whole tournament.

However the BIG ONE is scheduled for Wednesday night at 7.30pm when the two winners line up to decide the Cup winners for 1995...and that match could be dynamite.

The early match will decide Third and Fourth and if the last five years are any indicator these games are always 'top drawer' fixtures as they are also playing for pride.

Queensland showpiece, Yeppoon, a school of soccer excellence similar to Westfields in Sydney took all before it in the Northern State.

Queensland Soccer Federation General Manager Alan Vessey has followed the competition closely and would dearly love to see the cup go north.

There are some who see (Lambton) as underdogs after their narrow win over Holy Cross College, Ryde in the quarter final. Manager Don Hill agreed that there was an element of luck in their victory but they are there now and the squad has been having solid workouts under coach David Tancheski and they are quietly confident of doing well.

Murray Cooper, Alex Seivill, Paul Wheeler, Chris Tancheski and Scott Hinchee are having a great season.

Westfields the early favourites have Jason Culina, David Muiteam, Cenk Elgun and Nahuel Arrarte all on fire.

The NSW South Coast has never won the Cup but have been finalists several times. This could be the year.

And what a great representative they have in Holy Spirit College. They have dominated the South Coast and had two sound wins in the pre quarter finals and quarter finals over Griffiths High from the Riverina and Daramalan College from the ACT.

Victor Costabile is a young man with the potential to become an international if nurtured along.

Denis Jurgevic, Alan Holcroft with his pinpoint corner kicks, Joel Quin and 'Master Blaster' Ricardo Aguiera are key players in this years deciders.

All roads lead to Macquarie Field, Speers Point on Tuesday (5th) and Wednesday (6th).

From 659 schools there are just four left. Who will wear the crown by nine o'clock on Wednesday evening?

COMMONWEALTH BANK CUP - OPEN AGE GROUP

Westfields seek third consecutive Cup victory

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

The Commonwealth Bank Cup Final will be played on Friday at the St George Stadium where Westfields Sports High will be seeking their third consecutive Cup victory when they clash with Sydney Tech High.

Kick-off has been set down for 8pm.

No less than 332 High schools have contested this Cup tournament this year.

Despite the fact that Westfields Sports High are hot-favourites for the Cup, their coach and current NSW captain, Davie Barrett, refuses to be complacent.

Barrett who has coached Westfields to successive Cup victories, stated to ABSW last night: "This will be the second time these two sides have met in the Cup Final.

"We managed to beat them last time 2-0.

"But I firmly believe that Sydney Tech has drastically improved since last year and could prove to be a much tougher opponent for us on Friday night," warned a cautious

Barrett who for the coming season will also captain Sydney Olympic in the NSL.

On the way to the Final, Westfields Sports have conceded just one goal (in the semi against Colyton High) whilst scoring a massive 28 goals.

Top goalscorer for Westfields Sports was striker Ming Dang whilst their most impressive player has been their intelligent sweeper, Petar Krljar who also plays for Marconi's Academy team.

Sydney Tech's most dangerous player is their ace-goalscorer, Nick Polimenakis.

Westfields Sports has also two other teams into the Finals — their Girls' Under 15s and Girls' Open side.

Year 8 girl student, Carly Copeland, a striker — will play in both of the respective Girls' Finals.

The highly energetic Carly was voted "Player of the Tournament" in the National Championships at the tender age of 13.

Carly is the youngest ever female student to have made the Australian Girls' Open squad.



Davie Barrett: Coach of Westfields Sports High chasing his third consecutive Commonwealth Bank Cup win.



ABSW

S O C C E R F E D E R A T I O N

N S W

S O C C E R F E D E R A T I O N

PRELIMINARY FINALS

SUPER LEAGUE FIRST GRADE

Blacktown City	2	Canterbury Berries	0
UNDER 21			
Adamstown	2	Blacktown City	0
UNDER 18			
Macarthur	1	Blacktown City	1
(2-2 extra time)			

PRELIMINARY FINALS

DIVISION ONE FIRST GRADE

Sth Minotaurs	1	Belmore Her	2
UNDER 21			
Ryde City	3	Sydney Cosmos	0
UNDER 18			
Ryde City	1	Mt Pritchard	2

GRAND FINAL

DIVISION TWO FIRST GRADE

Bankstown	0	Bathurst '75	0
(3-1 penalties)			
Penrith	0	Bathurst '75	2
UNDER 18			
Bathurst '75	2	Bankstown	1

GRAND FINAL

DIVISION THREE FIRST GRADE

Greystanes	2	Alexandria	0
SECOND GRADE			
Gladesville Utd	1	Prairiewood Utd	0

GRAND FINAL

DIVISION FOUR FIRST GRADE

G Wanderers	2	Hawkesbury City	1
SECOND GRADE			
Balmain	0	Sydney University	0
(5-4 penalties)			
Penrith	0	Bankstown Sports	1

GRAND FINAL

DIVISION FIVE FIRST GRADE

Angels L'pool	3	Marrickville	1
SECOND GRADE			
Marrickville	n/a	United Eagles	n/a

PRELIMINARY FINALS

DIVISION SIX FIRST GRADE

Blacktown Utd	1	Nepean Districts	0
SECOND GRADE			
Maroubra Utd	0	Nepean Districts	6

FINAL SERIES

DIVISION ONE WOMEN'S STATE LEAGUE FIRST GRADE

Marconi	2	Gladesville	0
SECOND GRADE			
Cronulla	1	Gladesville Ravens	0

COURAGOUS DEMONS OVERCOME BERRIES

PRELIMINARY FINAL GABBY STADIUM SUNDAY

suffered a shoulder injury.

He was able to resume after treatment but had to be replaced by Andrews Crews at half-time.

The swirling wind made good football a difficult

confidently beating players.

His shot was only parried by the Berries custodian but he pluckily gathered at the second attempt.

Patrizi was called on to superbly tip the ball over the bar from a powerful dipping Bradley long range shot.

Nine minutes into the second half Bryan Raeburn had a chance for the Berries but he was denied by a timely tackle from Connolly.

Drouzas but the wind caught the attempted shot and it went well wide.

Fifty-nine minutes had elapsed when David Scott put through a defence — splitting pass for Antony Versi to run onto.

Versi calmly drew the goalie and put the ball home off the far post.

Moments later it was almost number three as Patrizi stubbed his foot when trying to clear the ball, giving Bradley a half chance.

Kariamis somehow managed to get the ball away.

Raeburn had the best chance for Canterbury when he rounded his marker and headed for goal.

Crews came out putting a hand on the shot which deflected onto the post.

Connolly was once more on hand to clean up.

Demons substitute Fernando Drakos created havoc down the right flank. With minutes to go before the final whistle he fed Bradley. Bradley's shot was magnificently saved at full stretch by Patrizi.

The \$30,000 on offer for a Grand Final win is within sight of the Demons. Only Warringah stand in the way.

Matthew Bloomfield in the Dolphins goal has been given his chance this season



neatly struck by Thomas Divljak but Demons skipper Andrew Brockbank knocked it over the bar for a corner.

Bradley caused difficulties for Canterbury virtually every time he had the ball.

He took a free-kick for the Demons 35 metres out and into the teeth of the fierce wind.

The ball looped over the despairing defenders but Man-of-the-match Jason Connolly kept his eye on the ball, met it on the half volley and put it away in the 35th minute off the post.

Michael Kariamis collected a yellow card with moments to go to half-time after he had superbly cleared up a ball from Martin Driene.

His follow through was judged to be unfair by referee Micallef.

Blacktown with the wind at their backs took charge of the second stanza. Patrizi had to have dust cleared from his eyes and this seemed to further unsettle the young keeper.

Connolly, prominent in both defence and attack, came forward from his own half

DOLPHINS OR DEMONS?

PREVIEW

SUPER LEAGUE

GRAND FINAL

Saturday September 2
Marconi StadiumFIRSTS 7PM
Warringah Dolphins v
Blacktown Demons

and has seized it with both hands.

Steven Hickman is a polished hard-tackling defender for the champions while Jason Connolly adds variety to the runners-up team with his forward forays.

Both teams have proven goalscorers in Jason Bennett and Adam Whan. The former with 12 for the season and Whan on 11.

However the Dolphins' Stuart Cleary also has 12.

The Demons goals have been shared between 11 other players besides Whan.

The difference could be in midfield where Patrick Bradley, on his best form, could prove to be the match winner.

Craig Sharpley will doubtless have a battle-royal with Bradley for engine room supremacy.

The game should produce some first class football as both sides try to play the game in the best possible manner.

The Dolphins will be hoping to farewell coach John Kosmina with the winning double, while Ken Schembri's last game in charge of the Demons could bring the deserved reward.

WEEKEND DRAW

FINALS SERIES SUPER LEAGUE

GRAND FINAL

Saturday 2nd September, 1995

1st Grade — Warringah Dolphins

Under 21 — Bonnyrigg WE

Under 18 — St George Saints

MARCONI STADIUM

v Blacktown City 7.00pm

v Adamstown R'bud 4.30pm

v Macarthur Rams 2.30pm

1ST DIVISION

GRAND FINAL

Sunday 3rd September, 1995

1st Grade — Central Coast

Under 21 — Central Coast

Under 18 — Central Coast

GABBY STADIUM

v Belmore Hercules 3.00pm

v Ryde City Gunners 1.00pm

v Mt Pritchard 11.00am

Soccer NSW Information Service 0055 22885 (max. call cost 70c/min.)

Finals focus on Port Melbourne

Coach — Takis Svigos
Home ground — Murphy Reserve
Victorian Championships — None
Finalists — 1994 and 1995



Shark skipper Dean Fak in last year's grand final.



SHARKS BITE IS AWESOME!

Two marvellous seasons should be capped by a maiden title for this charming Port Melbourne side which has stormed to superpower status in such a short period.

The then raw Sharks sank in the grand final last year against once awesome Preston, but Svigos has maintained the balance and fine tuned for another tilt at the title this time around.

If anything Port Melbourne is, if not better, at least more accomplished and certainly more experienced for this campaign.

And after one of the best-ever Premier League home and away seasons in VSF history the Sharks are raging hot favourites to go all the way.

Some at the club are a bit nervous that the all-conquering team in the regular season might 'choke' when it counts, yet few would tip against a Port Melbourne success this year.



Sensational Sava Rusmir in last season's grand final.



Will it be Port Melbourne against Altona Magic on Grand Final day?



Preston led the way against the Sharks in the biggest game of 1994.

NEXT WEEK'S FIXTURES

STATE ONE

No matches scheduled

STATE TWO

No matches scheduled

STATE THREE

No matches scheduled

STATE FOUR

No matches scheduled

PROVISIONAL ONE

No matches scheduled

PROVISIONAL TWO

No matches scheduled

PROVISIONAL THREE NORTH WEST

SUNDAY, 3RD SEPTEMBER ROUND 20

Mill Park	v	Nth Reservoir
LATROBE UNI	v	NORTHERN UTD
KEON PARK	v	SUNSHINE PARK
Diamond Valley	v	Sydenham Park
DAREBIN UTD	v	Upfield
Whittlesea Utd	v	WEST PRESTON

PROVISIONAL THREE METRO

No matches scheduled

PROVISIONAL THREE STH/EAST/CENTRAL

SUNDAY, 3RD SEPTEMBER ROUND 20

ENDEAVOUR	v	Nth Caulfield
WANTIRNA	v	OAKLEIGH UTD
EAST KEW	v	RMIT
COLLINGWOOD CITY	v	FLEM. FALCONS
CAM. GRAM. OLD BOYS	v	THORNBURY
IVANHOE UTD	v	WAV. WANDERERS

**RECORDED
RESULTS SERVICE**

0055 38887	0055 38878	0055 38898
SUNDAY MATCH RESULTS SERVICE	SATURDAY MATCH RESULTS SERVICE	SATURDAY MATCH RESULTS SERVICE
◆ Premier League	◆ Premier League	◆ State League
◆ State League Div. 1	◆ State League	Division 4
◆ Provisional	Divisions	◆ Provisional
League Divisions 4&5	1 to 3	League Divisions 1-3
(Updated by 6.30pm each Sunday evening)	(Updated by 6.30pm each Saturday evening)	(Updated by 6.30pm each Saturday evening)
(PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: 0055 38878)		

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VICTORIAN PREMIER LEAGUE

**ALTONA
MAGIC 2**
**SUNSHINE
GEORGIES 0**

BY DWYGH
TUFFNELL

Two quality pieces of finishing from Ice Kutlesovski and Henry Velkovski saw the Magic through to an encounter with the Port Melbourne Sharks in next week's Major Semi-final.

It was a very good performance, we were ordinary for the first 10 minutes, but then we got back on track and a lot more of the play than them, commented Magic coach Ian Dobson after the victory.

Kutlesovski got Altona's first, finishing off with class after profiting from a lucky rebound.

Robert Ferla's clearance bounced off Velkovski and into the path of the Iceman who outpaced Norm Dougherty before coolly lobbing Steve Wardle.

Velkovski ended the game with a touch of class going on a solo run which took him past three Georgies players and then firing past Wardle.

I was very happy with the result, it was a great confidence booster for the players and we've got it all to play for now, Dobson said.

The story could have been a different one for the Georgies had they converted an 83rd minute penalty which would have brought them level.

Anthony Cassar appeared to be bundled over by Magic keeper Darren McGrath after shooting over the bar. Agim Sherifovski had his

attempt saved by McGrath to keep the Magic in front.

The referee gave a very soft penalty, most of the people in the crowd wouldn't have given it but the ref did, said Dobson on Sunshine's controversial spot-kick.

Georgies coach Willie Vassallo lamented the penalty miss but thought that his side came out at least level with the victors.

I didn't think that they did any better than us, we were unfortunate with the first goal but they took their chance, but after their first goal I thought we did enough to score.

These games are touch and go, you get a chance, you have to take it and that's it. We had our chance (the penalty) and we didn't take it.

We're going to have to work hard to recover from this, we're still in it, it will be a hard game against Bulleen but we will recover.

We'll sit down during the week and have a talk and try to rectify where we went wrong, Vassallo said on the preparations for next week's clash with the Bulleen Lions. MAGIC: McGrath, Tasevski, Atanasovski, Runje, Harris, T. Markovski, Velkovski, Georgopoulos, Kutlesovski, Emovski, Radecki (Madarovski 82m).

GEORGIES: Wardle, Melroe (Field 80m), Kanesoulis, Casar, Ferla, Daglars (Aretis 72m), Lewis, Dougherty, Kiratzoglou, Stenson, Sherifovski.

SCORERS: Kutlesovski 63m, Velkovski 90m for Altona.

YELLOW CARDS: Tasevski (Altona).

CROWD: Approx. 3000.

REFEREE: Juergen Annuss.

BEST PLAYERS: 3 - Emovski (AM); 2 - Atanasovski (AM); 1 - Runje (AM).

Premier League FINAL LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Port Melbourne	26	22	3	1	60	13	69
Altona Magic	26	14	5	7	36	29	47
Sunshine Georgies	26	12	10	4	43	27	46
Bulleen Lions	26	11	9	6	31	22	42
Albion Redsox	26	11	6	9	31	32	39
Green Gully Cavaliers	26	10	8	8	31	26	38
North Geelong Warriors	26	9	7	10	31	32	34
Fawkner Blues	26	9	5	12	25	35	32
Box Hill Inter	26	7	8	11	25	30	29
Springvale City Vales	26	7	7	12	31	47	28
St Albans Saints	26	7	5	14	32	33	26
Preston Lions	26	6	7	13	28	37	25
Doncaster Rovers	26	4	10	12	21	43	22
Werribee Bees	26	5	6	15	25	44	21

TOP SCORERS

18	N. Tsaltas (Port Melb)	9	T. Calle (Box Hill)
14	C. Lewis (Sunshine)	9	M. Trupkovic (Nth G'long)
13	V. Trpcesvki (Altona M)	9	S. Bucinovski (Preston)
12	G. Savigos (Port Melb)	9	D. Gnjidic (Fawkner)
11	D. White (Bulleen)	8	P. Lutgens (Bulleen)
10	D. Genovesi (Green Gully)	8	N. Papadopoulos (Pt Melb)
	T. Podeljak (St Albans)	8	J. Tricarico (Green Gully)
	J. Suric (Werribee)	8	M. Lennon (Springvale)

BULLEEN LIONS 1

ALBION REDSOX 1

(Bulleen win 5-4 on penalties AET)

BY NICHOLAS
TZAHERIS

The Bulleen Lions swept past their first finals hurdle by downing the Albion Redsox after a nailbiting penalty shootout at Paisley Park on Sunday.

Crucial penalty misses by Gunay Kuyucogullari and Ozan Fehmi saw the enterprising Albion side become the first to stumble out of the finals series.

Kuyucogullari hit the post with the fifth penalty when a goal would have won it for Albion, while Fehmi shot wide in sudden death.

Bulleen now meet qualifying final losers, Sunshine, at Port Melbourne on Sunday with the loser facing elimination.

The game was the more entertaining of the double header providing both fierce competition and classy pieces of play.

The first half remained dormant until Peter

Lutgens erupted, scoring from a tight angle after receiving an incisive Dale White pass.

Lutgens showed great emotion after scoring the goal, running up to the Albion bench and exchanging words with Albion coach, John Dowie.

Bulleen had two prime second-half chances but Patterson shot off target with just Robert Brian to beat, while Gunay Kuyucogullari cleared a Peter Di Iorio shot off the line.

Robert Krajacic was then sent off for receiving a second caution before Albion mustered an equaliser through former Lion, Michael Vesnaver.

Vesnaver derived great pleasure from steering a header past former teammate Jeff Olver to send the contest into extra-time.

Albion made the most of their numerical superiority in extra-time but failed to make Bulleen pay from the two best opportunities they created.

Martin Collins headed high from close range and Vesnaver failed to become a hero when he skied a seemingly perfect chance from inside the area.

The match progressed to penalties with Bulleen prevailing by 5-4. Lions

coach, Peter Ollerton, was expectedly pleased his side is still alive but again downplayed his side's finals chances.

As I've said in the papers I think it's nearly impossible to win from fourth or fifth spot. You've got to be clear of injuries and suspensions, Ollerton said.

Ollerton loses central defender Krajacic for this Sunday's game with the Georgies but regains Pat Giacherini from suspension.

Meanwhile an obviously dejected Albion coach, John Dowie, felt his side came back well perhaps deserving a second goal and reflected on the misfortune of the shoot-out.

When your keeper saves two penalties in a shoot-out, you expect to win, Dowie said.

B. LIONS: Olver, Valentic, Krajacic (sent off), Tsiaikos (Uliana 97m), Liparoti, Sonsini, White, Patterson, Gribac, Di Iorio, Lutgens.

RED CARD: Krajacic (BL).

SCORERS: Lutgens 41m (BL), Vesnaver 84m (AR).

CROWD: Approx. 3000.

PREMIER LEAGUE FINALS

WHAT THE EXPERTS THINK

Sunshine
Georgies

Port
Melb Sharks

v
Bulleen Lions

v
Altona Magic

MINOR
SEMI FINAL

MAJOR
SEMI FINAL

NICK TZAHERIS

Georgies 1-0 Sharks 1-0

DWYGH TUFFNELL

Georgies 3-2 Magic 2-1

JOHN RIGAS

Georgies on pens Sharks 2-1

SCOTT SPITS

Lions 3-1 Sharks 2-0

GREG BLAKE

Lions 1-0 Magic 1-0

LUKE BUTTIGIEG

Georgies 2-0 Sharks 3-0

NICK GIANNAKOP

Lions 3-1 Sharks 4-2

ROD BOWLES

Georgies 3-2 Magic on pens

SONIA VIDUKA

Lions 1-0 Magic on pens

THIS WEEKS GAMES

SUNDAY

(At SS Anderson Reserve, Port Melbourne)

Sunshine Georgies v Bulleen Lions

(Minor Semi-Final - 3.00pm)

Port Melbourne

Sharks v Altona Magic

(Major Semi-Final - 6.00pm)

PREMIER LEAGUE RESULTS

ELIMINATION FINAL

Bulleen Lions 1 (Lutgens 41m) - Albion Redsox 1 (Vesnaver 84m)
after extra time Bulleen win 5-4 on penalties

QUALIFYING FINAL

Altona Magic 2 (Kutlesovski 63m, Velkovski 90m) - Sunshine Georgies 0

TOP VOTES

ABSW PASCOE VALLEY
SPORTS SCENE PLAYER
OF THE YEAR
FINAL LEADING STANDINGS

25	S. Rusmir (Port Melb)
20	C. Emovski (Altona)
18	T. Podeljak (St Albans)
17	G. Stenson (Sunshine)
16	Z. Markovski (Green Gully)
15	G. Savigos (Port Melb)
14	N. Papadopoulos (Port Melb)
	T. Neceski (Green Gully)
	N. Tsaltas (Port Melb)
	J. McBride (Doncaster)
	G. Dimovski (North Geelong)
	A. Sherifovski (Sunshine)



Vic Health supports the Victorian Soccer Federation





VICTORIAN



LADDERS

PREMIER LEAGUE RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Gr. Gully Cavil.	26	20	2	4	60	26	62
Sun. Georgies	25	15	5	5	57	23	50
Bulleen Lions	23	13	5	5	48	29	44
Fawkner Blues	25	13	4	8	53	48	43
Preston Lions	22	14	0	8	62	36	42
St Alb. Saints	24	10	8	6	41	36	38
Altona Magic	26	11	4	11	46	42	37
Pt Melb. Sharks	26	9	5	12	35	43	32
Werribee Bees	26	8	7	11	40	43	31
Spr. City Vales	26	7	8	11	44	42	29
Don'ter Rovers	25	7	6	12	45	42	27
Box Hill Inter	25	7	5	13	43	52	26
Nt. Geel. Warrior	26	6	5	15	36	61	23

STATE ONE FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Bent. Greens	24	16	6	2	57	23	54
Thomas. Devils	23	14	5	4	47	33	47
Clarinda	24	11	6	7	39	30	39
Lalor United	23	10	7	6	32	28	37
Westgate	24	9	7	8	40	37	34
West. Suburbs	24	10	7	7	25	22	34
Richmond	24	9	6	9	35	38	23
Croydon City	23	8	7	8	33	37	28
Northcote City	24	6	11	7	31	30	26
Caulfield City	23	7	5	11	33	40	26
Frank. Pines	23	5	6	12	28	35	21
Broadmeadows	22	5	5	12	30	34	20
Oakleigh	23	5	4	14	26	48	19
Knox City	22	4	6	12	22	43	18

STATE ONE RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Richmond	23	15	4	4	68	36	49
Oakleigh	23	13	6	4	51	31	45
Bent. Greens	22	12	6	4	46	22	42
Th'town Devils	22	11	5	6	37	29	30
Frank. Pines	22	9	6	7	42	34	33
Broadmeadows	22	9	5	8	39	45	32
Knox City	21	8	7	6	38	31	31
Caulfield City	23	6	9	8	45	41	27
Northcote City	21	9	3	9	38	41	27
Clarinda	21	7	4	10	31	36	25
Lalor Utd	19	7	3	9	35	33	24
Westgate	22	6	2	14	36	62	20
West. Suburbs	21	5	3	13	34	54	15
Croydon City	22	2	3	17	17	62	6

STATE TWO FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sp. White Eagles	22	16	5	1	49	22	53
Moorabbin City	22	14	6	2	41	13	40
Waverley City	24	12	9	3	48	25	45
Ess. Brun. Royals	24	14	6	4	57	37	45
Regent Bulla	22	9	7	6	42	32	34
Bell Park	24	9	5	10	29	36	32
Nunawading City	24	8	7	9	30	37	31
East Richmond	22	6	8	8	20	29	26
Altona East	22	6	6	10	36	28	24
Mooroolbark	22	6	6	10	24	38	24
Chelsea	22	6	4	12	22	32	22
Ringwood City	24	6	4	14	20	43	22
Altona City	24	4	6	14	24	51	18
Clifton Hill	22	3	3	16	25	52	12

STATE TWO RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Moorabbin City	22	18	3	1	88	20	57
Waverley City	22	16	2	4	68	23	50
Altona City	23	14	5	4	59	32	47
Sp. White Eagles	22	13	4	5	47	25	43
Regent Bulla	20	12	3	5	63	27	39
Ess. Brun. Royals	21	10	5	6	43	20	32
Ringwood City	23	10	0	13	46	61	30
Altona East	24	8	6	10	29	47	30

STATE THREE FIRSTS

Mooroolbark	22	8	2	12	39	49	26
Clifton Hill	21	7	4	10	25	28	25
Bell Park	24	6	1	17	26	36	19
Nunawading City	23	5	3	15	21	51	18
East Richmond	24	4	5	15	29	69	17
Chelsea	21	2	3	16	16	81	9

STATE THREE RESERVES

Westvale	20	19	0	1	70	11	57
Sth Dandenong	23	14	5	4	64	25	47
Melb. City	23	14	3	6	38	25	45
Sth Werribee	24	13	4	7	43	35	43
Frankston	23	12	3	8	53	34	39
Sth Caulfield	21	11	2	8	29	30	35
Elt Dia Valley	21	8	6	7	30	31	30
Keilor Eagles	23	7	8	8	25	26	29
Fitzroy City	22	9	2	11	22	33	29
Pascoe Vale	24	8	4	12	37	41	28
Banyule	23	8	1	14	41	58	25
Seaford Utd	24	6	4	14	38	61	22
Sunbury Utd	23	5	4	14	26	46	19
Sandringham	22	0	5	17	15	63	2

STATE FOUR FIRSTS

Cranbourne

Arnold to coach Perth's NSL club?

Socceroo Graham Arnold is one of a number of class identities that have thrown their name in the ring for the coaching position of the Perth team that are due to enter the National Soccer League in 1996.

The seasoned striker expressed an interest in the position when he recently was in Perth for the Australia-Ghana clash.

It is believed he has another year at his current Dutch First Division club NAC Breda, and then wants to return home and take up a coaching role in the National League. Arnold, who turned 32 this month, has represented his country for over a decade on 46 occasions. Trevor Morgan, currently the Assistant to Terry Cooper at English club Exeter City is also interested in the coaching position.

Advertising for a General Manager and Coach went in

the local and National newspapers last weekend.

Arena Investments spokesman Paul Afkos, said his consortium are after a couple of big-name players to go into a squad of 23, although NSL officials have said they are permitted to register 28.

Amongst those said to be interested, are Socceroo skipper Paul Wade, and Alex Tobin although Adelaide City denies the experienced defender has made any waves to head West. New Zealand striker Wynton Rufer, formerly with German club Werder Bremen and now in Japan with JEF United, has already made it clear that he is keen to play in WA once his commitments in the J-League are over. The star forward has already purchased a house in an outer Perth suburb.

Gary Marocchi, who coached the defunct Perth

Kangaroos to victory in the Singapore Premier League last year, and now back with Perth, is especially keen to take the helm of the NSL team. He said he will not be coaching Perth next year, and has hinted that he will quit altogether if he misses out on the NSL post. "I know I can do the job, but if they think success will be instant, they are very wrong," said the ex-National skipper. "You need a three to four year plan to develop a team that will get into the top-four, it won't happen overnight." Marocchi was also wary of bringing in so-called big name identities.

"You start splashing out for top players and they end up running the team. Either way though, I hope the side does well, it is certainly the type of injection this state has needed for a long time, and it finally provides our kids with that light at the end of the tunnel."



Graham Arnold: Keen to coach out West.

A STIRLING EFFORT

Stirling Macedonia secured back-to-back PSF Division One League championships in style on Saturday with an effortless 2-0 victory over Perth SC at Dorrien Gardens.

The Lions needed to suffer an unimaginable nine goal defeat in order to hand the title to Inglewood Falcons, but a goal in each half sank a raw and youthful Perth side that had no answer to the experience and confidence of a Stirling outfit who were directed by their coach Stuart Kamasz on a mobile phone since he was in Melbourne on business.

"This was a tougher yet more satisfying title victory than last year's, because the other teams were determined to beat the champions," said Stirling skipper Paul McVittie.

"And this was the best game we've played all season since there was hardly any pressure on us."

The opening half contained very few goalmouth incidents due to both sides getting bogged down in the middle third.

Perth had the opening strike after 15 minute when Dale Wingell headed a Joe Marropodi centre just wide. But it was the visitors that opened the scoring with a penalty a minute into injury time, after Steve Bourne was brought down by Perth keeper Paul Moore.

McVittie easily put away the spot-kick, his first for the season.

Gareth Naven came perilously close to equalising six minutes after the restart when a mazy run and a one-two with Wingell ended with Naven drilling his close-range volley just past an upright.

A skied Lucio Marinelli strike two minutes later and a missed header from Scott Miller in the 67th minute were Perth's final chances, since they found the red wall of the Macedonia back-line virtually impenetrable.

Stirling showed them how it's done six minutes later, when a low right side centre from Alex Cummings, somehow slipped past Perth's rearguard to striker Bourne who had a simple tap-in right on the line.

The Falcons ended up as league bridesmaids for the second consecutive season following an unconvincing 2-0 triumph over Floreat Athena at the Kiev Sports Ground last Friday.

Inglewood were never able to score the big victory required to challenge the Lions for the title.

Alan McTurk opened the scoring in the 52nd minute with a fierce drive, then Martin Woodall collected his first goal for the Falcons in the 76th.

Inglewood's victory was soured nine minutes from the end when Paul Strudwick was sent off for a second yellow card offence.

PANTHERS SEAL BAYSWATER'S FATE

Bayswater City have been doomed to Division Two next season following a 4-1 defeat by Swan IC at Bayswater Oval.

Stirling Panthers greatly assisted in City's fate with a surprise victory over Sorrento.

Bayswater began the match at a frantic pace and produced the more effective raids, but failed to complete them with a scoring touch.

Swan then stunned their opponents with the opening goal after 14 minutes through Terry Worsfold after a quality build-up by Peter Murphy.

The visitors made it 2-0 in 51 minutes when Murphy punished a defensive error with deadly effect, and it also gave the seasoned striker the golden boot award with 17 goals.

Ian Ballantyne reduced the deficit in the 79th minute when he headed home a Dario Di Cesare rebound which struck the cross-bar, but Swan substitute Paul Borg knocked the wind out of the league strugglers with two goals in the closing stages.

Stirling Panthers performed a Houdini act that the master himself would have been proud of, when a 2-1 triumph over Sorrento lifted them above the two relegation spots for the first time this season.

For Sorrento, a third consecutive loss saw them switch from strong title candidates to finishing in a disappointing fifth position.

SPEARWOOD CLINCH THRILLER

Spearwood Dalmatinac scored a stirring 2-0 victory over Stirling Panthers in the remaining catch-up fixture at Macedonia Park last Wednesday night.

A Gerry Christie goal after three minutes and a second to Gary Murray in the 78th, was just a fraction of the evening's action.

The game was held up for 20 minutes early in the opening half when Stirling defender Paul Dimmock collided heavily with a team-mate. He was later rushed to hospital with suspected concussion.

After Murray bungled a 52nd minute penalty, referee Louis Prospero reduced both sides to 10 men when he sent off Dean Wallace of Spearwood in the 69th minute, and Panthers forward Alan Mackenzie eight minutes further on.

ZEBRAS TOO STRONG FOR WEARY WEST

NSL Finalists Adelaide City, kicked off their pre-season preparations in positive fashion with a 3-1 triumph over a tired Western Australia in a challenge match at Bayswater Oval last Sunday.

Two games in two days took its toll on the local players, but they still managed to give the South Australian club a solid workout although it was a result City coach John Perin was far from impressed with.

"Our passing went astray and we were rushing things," said Perin after the match.

"Full credit to the local boys who had to play the day before. We should have taken full advantage of this but we didn't."

The only thing that pleased Perin was the performance of his new signing, left-back Bradley Armour.

"He looked lost at first, but he found his feet later," said Perin.

Damien Mori gave the visitors the lead in the 20th minute from a cleverly created free-kick close to the face of the WA penalty area. They could have gone into the second-half enjoying a two goal advantage after keeper Robbie Zabica had upended Mori in the 42nd minute, but the ex-Socceroo goalie executed a breathtaking save to deny Mori's spot-kick.

But the pacey City and Socceroo striker made amends just two minutes after the restart when he powered the ball past Mark Harkness who had replaced Zabica at the break.

The home side reduced the deficit in the 68th minute when a searching ball from Steve Bourne was well controlled by Terry Worsfold and neatly placed past former Spearwood keeper Jason Petkovic.

PROFESSIONAL FEDERATION

DIVISION ONE

Stirling Panthers	2	Sorrento	1
Perth	0	Stirling Lions	2
Bayswater City	1	Swan IC	4
Spearwood Dal	2	Fremantle City	1
Inglewood Falcons	2	Floreat Athena	0

(FINAL TABLE)

Stirling Lions	18	13	2	3	45	21	41
Inglewood Falcons	18	12	2	4	36	22	38
Spearwood Dalmatinac	18	9	4	5	41	26	31
Swan IC	18	9	3	6	39	32	30
Sorrento	18	8	5	5	41	26	29
Perth SC	18	8	4	6	30	24	28
Floreat Athena	18	6	2	10	34	47	20
Panthers	18	3	4	11	21	35	13
Bayswater City	18	3	4	11	19	48	13
Fremantle City	18	3	2	13	24	49	11

DIVISION TWO

Bassendean Cale	1	Rockingham City	0
Morley Windmills	3	Stirling Vardar	0
Melville Corinthians	2	Dianella WE	1
Ashfield	0	Western Knights	2
Southside Utd	0	Kingsway Olympic	3
Cockburn Utd	0	Balcatta	2

TABLE

Western Knights	17	14	2	1	57	12	44
Kingsway Olympic	19	13	3	3	59	16	42
Bassendean Caled.	19	10	5	4	34	26	35
Morley Windmills	19	9	5	5	39	28	32
Dianella WE	17	8	2	7	39	23	26
Cockburn Utd	19	6	4	9	30	42	22
Balcatta	19	7	4	8	28	47	25
Ashfield	19	4	6	9	30	54	18
Melville Corinthians	19	6	2	11	12	25	20
Southside Utd	19	4	5	10	20	37	17
Rockingham City	19	3	7	9	24	37	16
Stirling Vardar	19	3	5	11	19	44	14

DIVISION THREE

Perth City	0	North Lake Espanol	1
Wanneroo British	1	University	1
Stirling V.Reds	4	Queens Park	2
Balga	0	Joondalup City	2
Armadale Park	0	Bunbury Utd	7
Western Yugal	2	Geraldton La Fiamma	0

TABLE

Perth City	19	13	4	2	48	21	43
Bunbury United	19	13	1	5	76	29	40
Joondalup City	18	11	5	2	55	20	38
North Lake Espanol	18	9	4	5	32	32	31
Western Yugal	18	9	2	7	34	27	29
University	18	7	5	6	25	31	26
Balga	19	5	5	9	35	43	

NORTHERN NEW SOUTH WALES

1995 NBN SOCCER LEAGUE

QUARTER FINALS FORMAT

STATE FIRST GRADE

West Wallsend	1	Wallsend Red Devils	2
Weston Workers	3	Broadmeadow	0
Edgeworth Eagles	4	Hamilton	2
Highfields	4	Lake Macquarie	0

RESERVE GRADE

Wallsend Red Devils	2	Cessnock	1
Weston Workers	1	Edgeworth Eagles	0
West Wallsend	0	Hamilton	3
Highfields	4	Broadmeadow	1

UNDER 18'S

Weston Workers	1	West Wallsend	0
Broadmeadow	2	Wallsend Red Devils	2
Edgeworth Eagles	1	Hamilton	2
Highfields	4	Lake Macquarie	1

QUEENSLAND XXXX LEAGUE

DIVISION ONE

Taringa Rovers	1	Pine Rivers United	3
Grange Thistle	1	Brisbane Lions	1
Wynnum District	3	Eastern Suburbs	1
Coalstars	2	Rochdale Rovers	1
Willowburn	1	North Brisbane	3
North Star	1	Brisbane City	3

TABLE

Brisbane City	22	16	4	2	53	22	52
Rochdale Rovers	22	15	3	4	52	17	48
Taringa Rovers	22	13	3	6	35	25	42
Brisbane Lions	22	11	8	3	38	19	41
Coalstars	22	11	2	9	31	26	35
Wynnum District	22	10	4	8	30	24	34
North Star	22	10	3	9	38	42	33
Grange Thistle	22	7	3	12	29	39	24
Eastern Suburbs	22	5	5	12	23	47	20
Pine Rivers United	22	3	10	9	23	35	19
North Brisbane	22	3	4	15	23	39	13
Willowburn	22	2	3	17	21	61	9

DIVISION TWO

Olympic United	n/a	Souths United	n/a
University of Queensland	1	Nerang	1
Acacia Ridge	0	Ipswich St Helens United	4
Rocklea United	0	Beenleigh	0
Inala City United	2	St Albans	0
Mount Gravatt	0	Logan City Kings	1

TABLE

Nerang	22	14	2	6	48	26	44
Beenleigh	22	13	4	5	64	36	43
Ipswich St Helens United	22	13	4	5	51	31	43
St Albans	22	12	1	9	36	28	37
Logan City Kings	22	11	3	8	34	30	36
Rocklea United	22	10	4	8	32	22	34
Acacia Ridge	22	9	4	9	33	36	31
Inala City United	22	8	4	10	41	57	28
Olympic United	21	7	4	10	22	33	25
Mount Gravatt	22	5	3	14	24	40	18
Souths United	21	5	3	13	28	47	18
University of Queensland	22	4	4	14	19	46	16

DIVISION THREE

Annerley Recreation	6	Clairvaux	1
Slacks Creek	1	Redlands United	0
Goodna & Districts	1	Mitchelton	3
Newmarket	0	The Gap	3
North Pine United	0	Capalaba	3
Latrobe Athletic	0	Albany Creek Excelsior	3

TABLE

Capalaba	22	18	3	1	58	17	57
Albany Creek Excelsior	22	18	1	3	69	16	55
The Gap	22	13	4	5	46	25	43
Mitchelton	22	14	1	7	40	27	43
Slacks Creek	22	9	4	9	32	26	31

Redlands United	22	9	2	11	27	34	29
Newmarket	22	8	4	10	30	36	28
Goodna & Districts	22	9	1	12	34	44	28
Annerley Recreation	22	8	3	11	33	40	27
Latrobe Athletic	22	5	4	13	25	44	19
Clairvaux	22	5	1	16	20	51	16
North Pine United	22	1	2	19	12	66	5

DIVISION FOUR

Darra United	3	Moggill United	2
Brothers United	7	Ipswich City	2
Samford	1	Oxley United	1
Western Suburbs	4	Pine Hills	3
Southside Eagles	1	Redcliffe City	0
Loganholme	1	South Star	2

TABLE

Western Suburbs	22	15	5	2	46	22	50
Darra United	22	14	3	5	49	19	45
Moggill United	22	13	4	5	54	24	43
Southside Eagles	22	13	4	5	43	13	43
Redcliffe City	22	13	1	8	53	36	40
Brothers United	22	10	4	8	48	39	34
Samford	22	8	4	10	35	41	28
South Star	22	7	6	9	33	41	27
Loganholme	22	6	4	12	29	40	22
Ipswich City	22	5	5	12	25	50	20
Pine Hills	22	2	7	13	26	50	13
Oxley United	22	1	3	18	16	82	6

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Raiders charge into the Grand Final

After a hard fought 2-1 win over the Port Lion Pirates on Sunday at Hindmarsh, the

Borussia Dortmund**The most popular club in Germany**

BAYERN MUNICH may be Germany's biggest and most successful club. But they are not the most popular. That accolade goes to Borussia Dortmund, who can claim the most loyal following in the country.

Last season the new champions sold a Bundesliga record 28,500 season tickets — more than twice as many as Bayern (12,000), while their average gate was almost equal to the 42,800 capacity of their splendid Westfalen stadium.

Since the club needs only 35,000 per league game to break even and have enjoyed two highly lucrative seasons in the UEFA Cup, they have no debts and are rolling in money.

The Dortmund were able to finance the return from Italy of several top class players. In fact, with Stefan Reuter, Matthias Sammer, Karlheinz Riedle, Andy Moller and the Brazilian Julio Cesar, half the first team is composed of ex-Italian 'legionaires', whose successful integration helped the side in the past four years to always finish among the top four in the Bundesliga. This remarkable consistency has also contributed to the enthusiastic support of the fans in this city of goal, steel and beer. situated close to the industrial Ruhr, the Dortmund benefit from a large catchment area for football fanatics.

That Borussia deservedly won the 1994-95 title there can be no doubt. In 25 of the 34 rounds they led the table. They had to wait 32 years for the championship crowd, their first in the Bundesliga; six years had passed since their last trophy was paraded through the streets, the DFB Cup.

No wonder that in the hour of triumph they all cried, including the usually cool and composed team manager Ottmar Hitzfeld. Team captain Michael Zorc, 17 years at the club, summed up the feelings of everyone: "There was so much work involved, we deserved the title."

Yet, once again the yellow-and-blacks trembled until the final day. They remembered how close they had been to the target in recent years, never more so than in 1992.

On the last day of that season, Dortmund, Eintracht Frankfurt and VfB Stuttgart were level on points and all played away. Frankfurt lost at Hansa Rostock, while the Dortmund defeated MSV



Patrik Berger:
Borussia
Dortmund's left
midfielder from the
Czech Republic.

Duisburg 1-0 and thought they had won the title.

Then news came through that Stuttgart's captain, World Cup star Guido Buchwald, had hit the 2-1 winner against Leverkusen four minutes from the end of the season to clinch the title on goal difference.

This time around it all fell neatly into place in the final round, Dortmund beating Hamburg 2-0, while leaders Werder Bremen crashed 3-1 at Bayern Munich.

But it wasn't all plain sailing. A deep crisis settled over Dortmund when their three strikers, Karlheinz

Riedle, the Swiss Stephane Chapuisat and the Dane Flemming Povlsen, were all put out of action by torn cruciate ligaments.

"I was forced to use for weeks youngsters like Ibrahim Tanko (aged 17) and Lars Ricken (18) in attack. The title triumph was

◆ FACTS ◆

FOUNDED: DECEMBER 19, 1909

STADIUM: WESTFALEN STADION
(CAPACITY 42,800)

COLOUR: Yellow and black shirts, black shorts, yellow socks

PRESIDENT: Gerd Niebaum

HONOURS: 3 GERMAN TITLES (1956, 1957,
1963); 1 BUNDESLIGA TITLE (1995);
2 GERMAN CUPS (1965, 1989);
1 GERMAN SUPER CUP (1989); 1 EUROPEAN
CUP-WINNERS CUP (1966)

a minor miracle," said a delighted Hitzfeld, who has always enjoyed the full support of the board. "I have won titles in Switzerland, but this is my first in Germany. The enthusiasm here is just unbelievable."

Borussia Dortmund were founded on December 19, 1909, six years after the first German championship was decided. For decades German football was organised on a regional basis. At the end of every season the winners and runners-up of the major regional leagues were drawn into two groups, whose winners contested the grand Germany final for the championship.

Borussia first became champions as late as 1956, defended the title successfully in 1957 and repeated their triumph in 1963, as the last club under the old formula. In that year the Bundesliga was launched.

So their present title is the first in the fully professional federal national league.

They won the DFB-Cup in 1965 and 1989 and the German Supercup, also in 1989. In 1966 they became the first German club to win a European trophy, the Cup-winners Cup, beating West Ham in the semi-final and Liverpool in the final.

Borussia began the 1994-95 season strongly. The quarrels among some players, provoked by envy of the lifestyles of the five ex-Italian mercenaries, who made a pile of money abroad, were at last stifled by the management, who weeded out the troublemakers. Everybody started pulling in the same direction.

In the autumn the Dortmund took over at the top and kept their lead at the winter break. Their 'half-time' record of 28 points from 17 matches had only been bettered once before — by



1860 Munich in 1965-66 season. The vital factor was the top form of their experienced players, notably sweeper Mathias Sammer, rated the top professional in the Bundesliga and praised by Hitzfeld as "the Beckenbauer of the 1990s."

Borussia survived the injury crisis in the closing stages and triumphed deservedly. Now they are preparing for their first venture in the Champions League. They will rely on the tried and trusted squad strengthened by the acquisition of international stopper Jürgen Kohler from Juventus, the talented Czech midfielder Patrik Berger from Slavia Prague and the promising striker Carsten Wolters from Second Division Wattenscheid.

The row with Monchengladbach over the signing of 'rebel' striker Heiko Herrlich was still unresolved. Dortmund were hoping to acquire him before the August deadline, so he would be eligible for the Champions League.

Even so, if Borussia recapture the form they displayed last season in the UEFA Cup, then their European rivals better watch out. In extra-time against Spain's Deportivo La Coruna they looked doomed at 2-1 on aggregate but scored twice in the last four minutes to triumph 3-2.

In the quarter-final they put out Lazio with a winner in the last minute! They were unlucky to go out in the semis against Juventus.

Red Star Belgrade

The fall of a champion team

NO OTHER prominent European club has travelled the road from continental champions to international isolation as rapidly or as dramatically as Serbia's most successful and popular outfit, Crvena Zvezda (Red Star) Belgrade.

Four seasons ago, despite the country's civil unrest, Belodedici, Jugovic, Savicevic, Prosinecki, Pancev and others provided Yugoslavia with their first European Champions Cup. They eclipsed, without a single defeat, Grasshopper Zurich, Rangers, Dynamo Dresden, Bayern Munich and, in the 100th European final, Marseille.

Between 1956 and 1992, Red Star had become one of the most eminent powers on the Continent, participating 33 times in all three UEFA club competitions (then, only Real Madrid had played more). They reached ninth place on the European all-time performance table, with 46 wins, 13 draws and 27 defeats.

During the past five decades — the club celebrates their 50th anniversary this year — their contribution and dominance went far beyond their accumulation of trophies.

Red Star were highly respected abroad, passionately loved by their own supporters (average home attendance in European matches was well above 80,000), but hated by everybody else. And who have been more committed to cut the red and white scalp than neighbours Partizan Belgrade?

This bitter rivalry, not without a political and social contest, has not died in recent seasons.

During the muddy horror of the civil war surrounding rump Yugoslavia, Partizan comfortably won two championships in a row. Red Star claimed that the club's objective was "to retain the title when it really matters" with the liftings of sports sanctions on Serbia and Montenegro in sight.

The war meant Red Star lost the chance to compete in European competition and a lot more besides. Club director Vladimir Cvetkovic says: "If the international blockade had not been implemented, we would have kept our European Champions team together for at least two or three seasons. And I am sure we would have won more trophies. We not only have lost the chance to compete, we also lost about \$90 million in tickets, sponsorship and TV contracts."

With only two players, Milojevic and Adzic, remaining from 1991, and with other transferred worldwide (Lekovic,



Dejan Savicevic: Pictured here playing for Yugoslavia, was part of the famous Red Star team of 1991.

Vidakovic, Vasiljevic, Maslovar, Lukic, Ivic, Drobniak), the club have carried on a process of rebuilding a team capable of winning everything at home, including admiration for the football they play.

In the 1994-95 championship, featuring a changed, two-stage format, Red Star and Partizan faced each other four times. The last and decisive derby, played on May 6, in front of a 92,500 capacity crowd — which Red Star won 2-1 — was significant in many ways.

It showed how imminent the Yugoslav football revival is, and what a tremendous spirit, talent and strength in depth there is in the new Red Star squad.

The leading fixture in the club's rebirth is their coach, Ljubomir Petrovic, now in his second spell with the club. Tough, cold-minded, aggressive, almost ruthless, he knows how to make difficult decisions. No player



was allowed to feel secure. everybody had to be physically, technically and mentally fit for the task.

Highly-versatile sweeper Stojkovic, stopper Djordjevic, playmaker Petkovic and midfielders Perovic and Krupnikovic, have formed the axis on which Petrovic has based his new team. Up front, one of the most exciting young strikers in Europe, Darko Kovacevic, has made and scored almost all the vital goals, 27 in total.

Kovacevic, only 21, was a real bargain at only

\$900,000 from Proleter Zrenjanin in June 1994. He has proved to be a natural opportunist and a lethal finisher, a modern centre-forward with power, elegance, pace and balance. Of course, there is still room for improvement, and the best of him, as well as of the others, is yet to come.

Although Red Star won their 14th Yugoslav Cup and 20th Yugoslav championship with only one defeat in 18 Division A matches, director Dragan Dzajic reckons that their superiority in the domestic game does not mean the new team are strong enough to be a force in European football.

At least, not yet. He says: "The Yugoslav League is not what it used to be, and few of our players have made names for themselves on the international stage, although their youth and growing confidence suggests fame may not be long in coming."

FACTS

FOUNDED: MARCH 4, 1945.

COLOURS: RED AND WHITE STRIPED SHIRTS, WHITE SHORTS, RED SOCKS.

STADIUM: CRVENA ZVEZDA, LJUTICA BOGDANA 3, BELGRADE.

CAPACITY: 92,500 (27,500 SEATS)

PRESIDENT: CEDOMIR PETROVIC.

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: DRAGAN DZAJIC.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

The civil war in the former Yugoslavia forced the break-up of the Red Star team who beat Marseille 5-3 on penalties in the 1991 Champions Cup Final. Members of that side are now playing all over Europe. Everywhere, in fact, except Belgrade.

STEVAN STOJANOVIC

Goalkeeper. Moved to Antwerp in Belgium, where he is still playing.

VLADIMIR JUGOVIC

Midfield. Until recently with Italy's Sampdoria. Now with Juventus.

SLOBODAN MAROVIC

Left-back. Moved to Sweden to IFK Norrkoping. Only member of the 1991 Champions Cup-winning team to have retired from professional football.

REFIK SABANADZOVIC

Midfield. Still in Greece with AEK Athens.

MIODRAG BELODEDICI

Sweeper. Moved to Valencia in Spain, and then on to Real Valladolid. Likely to move to Panionios of Greece this season.

ILIJA NAJDOSKI

Centre-back. Looks set to rejoin Red Star after spells with Real Valladolid (Spain) and Denizlispor (Turkey).

SINISA MIHAJLOVIC

Midfield. Moved to Roma in Italy, from where he went on loan to Sampdoria. Has returned to Roma this season.

DARKO PANCEV

Centre-forward. The former Golden Boot winner moved to Internazionale, enjoyed a spell with Dynamo Berlin, before returning to Inter, where he has struggled to make an impact. Has just joined Fortuna Dusseldorf in the Bundesliga.

ROBERT PROSINECKI

Midfield. Joined Real Madrid, before moving to Real Oviedo on loan. He is now at Barcelona.

DRAGISA BINIC

Forward. Moved to Sparta Prague, and then on to Japan, playing for Grampus Eight, before joining his current side, Tosu Futures.



McMurtrie on track

Young Queensland defender Louise McMurtrie made the trip to Sweden for the World Cup but didn't spend any minutes on the park. In the following US Women's Cup, the 19-year-old McMurtrie suddenly found herself in the starting 11 in her favourite role of sweeper.

"I was a little bit disappointed," said McMurtrie of the World Cup, "as I had played in all the lead-up games. Tom (Sermanni) had explained that it wasn't that I was playing badly, but he wanted to try a different combination. But it didn't bother me too much. I wish I could've had five minutes, but I was just glad to be there, happy to be part of the 20."

Despite not playing, McMurtrie still has very happy memories of the whole World Cup experience. "The best moment was marching out with the other team. That's when it really hit home for me — this is it, this is the World Cup."

Then came the US Women's Cup, just weeks after the team's return from Sweden. McMurtrie had no idea she would be granted the responsibility of playing sweeper, and of course was delighted to be given the chance. Pre-World Cup, McMurtrie was placed in a marking position, a role she



Louise McMurtrie: Spent the World Cup on the bench.

dislikes but was willing to play to be part of the team.

But then a very badly timed illness struck McMurtrie and other teammates, forcing her to miss the first game — against new World Champions Norway. It was rather a let down for McMurtrie, eager to get out there and take on the challenge.

However the remaining two games became hers. "It was great to play sweeper again. I had Anissa (Tann-Darby) and Alison (Forman) playing in front of me and supporting me, so it wasn't such a big deal as they are so

experienced. I felt comfortable — I liked it. The USA match was really good. Their crowds are very patriotic, but we levelled the score twice and made them work hard for their goals."

"Tom explained to me that we are now building towards the 1999 World Cup and he hopes a few of the younger players by then will be key players — especially those who have had the World Cup experience."

With non-qualification for the Olympic Games, the US Cup took on a lesser significance for the Australians, but McMurtrie

reports it was still an important tour for the team. "It was more relaxed after the World Cup, but the intensity was still there, the desire to win, especially against the Americans. Younger players like Dianne Alagich were brought in and she loved it. Different people got different things out of the tournament.

"Both events were very positive for women's soccer in Australia I feel."

McMurtrie has her own views on the direction Australia needs to take to really be competitive against the world's best. "We need a more professional league set-up," she said. "I know it's hard in financial terms, but especially in Queensland, the competition is not as strong as it should be. When Australia goes overseas, it is so hard. The intensity here is not up to world standard."

"We are behind, but not through a lack of commitment, that's just how it is. To be a better outfit, we need to become professional. For the Americans, soccer is their job, their club, everything. We should look at something like that. Most of us have a job or school — soccer is the next thing after that for us."

McMurtrie was one of the original squad members of the Queensland Academy of Sport when the women's soccer program was first established three years ago, and has been there ever since.

Originally under the

guidance of Connie Selby, the program has recently come under the direction of former NSL player Greg Brown, with Selby remaining as assistant. Brown has added the females to his duties with the boys' program. McMurtrie along with fellow Queenslanders Sonia Gegenhuber and Kaylene Janssen trained with the boys leading up to the World Cup.

With State training now also on the agenda, McMurtrie, who lives in Ipswich, currently trains four days a week with a further day working on eights. The Academy players of course have the benefit of the QAS facilities. McMurtrie,

receptionist, recently increased her hours to full-time and has little time for anything else.

The QAS team competes in the local Brisbane competition. They won the premiership this year and played Easts last weekend in the final. McMurtrie gets frustrated at the standard of competition it provides. "It's so different, there's no intensity. People think I must have a chip on my shoulder, but they don't see the bigger picture."

McMurtrie was also unimpressed by the little recognition afforded to the World Cup players at the recent QWSA Player of the Year dinner. "Maybe they



In action in her favourite role as sweeper.

will do something at the next dinner later this year, but we only got a small mention at the end of the evening."

McMurtrie originally took up soccer because of a rivalry with her older brother. She tried very hard at ballet, but found it wasn't for her. After following her brother around many a soccer field, she then decided to take up the game herself at age 11.

McMurtrie first gained selection in the Australian Junior Squad in 1990 before progressing to the Youth side two years later. In 1994 she made her senior international debut against Russia in her home State.

For a player still in her teens, McMurtrie has already been granted some impressive awards. Last year she was named QWSA Player of the Year, and was further honoured to receive one of two Junior Sportswomen Encouragement awards along with world record swimmer Rebecca Brown at the prestigious Queensland Sportswoman of the Year awards night.

The highlight of McMurtrie's career is the World Cup. "Nothing you can say can top that. Also when we qualified was the most unbelievable feeling, to know we'd actually made it — one of the top 12."

Her ambitions are to be in the starting teams for the 1999 World Cup, and then the 2000 Olympics. Louise looks to be right on track to achieve just that.

Young coach leads the way

ACT's Katrina Alexander is a young coach with an impressive record. Last month she led ACT to its first ever National Title with victory in the Australian Junior Championships. Now since the departure of Mike Milovanovic, 26-year-old Alexander is filling in as ACT's ITC Coach after working as Assistant Coach to the program. The whole experience very much fits into her strong belief that youth is the answer to the future of women's soccer in Australia.

"I've won Nationals as a player with NSW, but this has been the sweetest thing in my career," said Alexander of the win in Hobart. "I took on the Juniors in 1994 and we put together a three-year plan. Last year we came third, and now we've won it. I couldn't fault them, the girls were absolutely brilliant. And I had good support staff in my manager and trainer. We are just one big team, plus we believed we could win."

The overall development plan has involved getting young talented players into senior competition for higher level exposure, plus a summer skills program to build up their technical game. This is what has made the victory so significant in

Alexander's eyes — the result of plain hard work and a sound youth policy. It's an approach which is quickly bearing fruit in the ACT.

The team is the first ever ACT male or female soccer team to take out a national title. For their historic achievement, both Alexander and the team have been further recognised by ACT's sporting hierarchy. The side has been named ACT Sportstar Team of the Month, with Alexander taking out Sportstar Coach of the Month.

She is delighted for the team, and also thrilled to take out the coaches' award against some formidable opposition such as Tim Sheens. The awards are voted on by the media and representatives from the Australian Sports Commission, and culminate with each monthly winner vying for the prestigious Yearly title.

"The one feather in my cap I want now is the ITC job," said Alexander. She has applied for the full-time position which has been advertised and should be announced in the next few weeks.

"I'm not confident, but I've got the qualifications. I'm probably battling uphill, but you've got to put your hat in the ring. If I don't get it, I'll still apply for other jobs. I feel it's important a female

coach is appointed — if not this year, then in the future. After all, that is AWSA policy."

Alexander is pleased with the progress of the ITC program and is revelling in the caretaker role. "It's good experience for me. I've been thrown in at the deep end, but it's great and the girls are responding well. I have coached them all before at some stage."

Alexander also hopes to work further with National Coach Tom Sermanni after having assisted at each of the National Squad training camps leading up to the World Cup.

Alexander has her own firm beliefs on how Australian women's soccer now needs to build towards international success. "Youth development is the answer. We have a top elite bunch of under 16s who need to be developed further. We should go into schools and pick out players, and run programs to get the girls interested in soccer. I know a lot less in the older players — I'm not denying that — but what happens when they retire."

Alexander was Assistant Coach to Clove Mackillop for the Australian Junior Team's tour to New Zealand earlier this year. "They couldn't believe the standard of our young players.

New Zealand has no junior development in place, and we offered to devise a program for them."

Along with all her coaching commitments, Alexander still also plays in ACT's first division and in the State Team. Her club Canberra City, who have just taken out the premiership undefeated, also concentrates on youth. The club has seven girls under 16 who were taken in from a young age and developed.

YOUTH SURGES AHEAD

Three players under 14 are playing first division. "We give the kids a chance. People have got to take up to the fact that youth is the answer. The young ones need to be given opportunities — they might get hammered to start with, but they will be better for it."

Alexander is a former Youth international, a member of the first Australian Youth Team to play in the Dallas Cup in 1986. She decided to take up coaching seven years ago after realising she couldn't break into the next level up as a player. Alexander feels she lacked total dedication as a player, and thought coaching would be a good way to put something back

into the sport.

Her first appointment was Coach of the ACT U/19s when she had just celebrated her 20th birthday. "I enjoy it. It's a challenge, I don't do it for the glory — it's damn hard work."

Always eager to learn more, Alexander has coached a senior men's side for further experience. "I wanted to see what it would be like. It was certainly a learning experience." She also plans to widen her coaching horizons by working overseas at some stage.

Having played for her country, Alexander's aim is to do the same as a coach. "I've been Assistant, but I want more, I want to coach my country. I'm not saying it will be this or next year. My ultimate aim is to coach at the World Cup and Olympics."

Alexander moved to Canberra from Sydney with her family back in 1986, a move she hated in the beginning as a teenager. For a long time she blamed the move as the reason for her not progressing as a player, but no longer holds that belief.

Her 20 hours working with the ITC squad are juggled along with her part-time job as Soccer Administrator for the Canberra City Soccer Club. The only paid club soccer administrator in the

ACT, Alexander's role involves everything from ground hire to match payments for the five men's and four women's teams at the club.

To add to all the recent excitement, Alexander has recently become engaged to Michael who has no involvement in soccer. He is however very supportive of her football commitments which take up every night with training. They big day is set down for March next year.

With two footballing brothers, Alexander made an early start in the game, taking it up at age seven. She was also a dancer, and eventually had to choose between the two. She opted for the team sport, not as happy working alone in dance.

At just 26, Alexander has been around a long time, and yet has many years ahead of her. A hands-on person who has taken the initiative to get where she is today, Alexander is frustrated at the lack of females working in the game. "I just wish other people would get off their backsides and do something too. I mean, how easy was it for me to put my hand up and get involved. There are a lot of ex-players who should do the same and put something back into the game."

ITALY's Serie A & B

No real upsets but Parma draw

There were no real upsets on the first day of the Italian First Division championship, with all the fancied title contenders winning except for Parma, second-placed last year, who managed a draw on one of the toughest grounds, Atalanta in Bergamo.

It was plain sailing at home for champions

Juventus and last season's other runner-up, Lazio, who inflicted the same margin of defeat, 4-1, on two teams who already look like having their work cut out to stay in Serie A, Cremonese and Piacenza.

In Turin, the home supporters had to suffer for a quarter of an hour after Croatian midfielder Jugovic's early goal was

pegged back by Cremonese's Maspero, but then the champions were powered to a decisive win by another superlative performance from striker Fabrizio Ravanelli, who bagged two goals.

Equally impressive on its home debut was Lazio, with Italy striker Beppe Signori grabbing an important early goal

and then supplying the assists for two others as an all-Italian Piacenza appeared ill-equipped for life in the top flight.

Many of the plaudits went to young striker Esposito, with two goals, while most observers thought the Piacenza attack too feeble to test a Lazio defence that was often found wanting last year.

HOW THEY LINED UP...

FIorentina-Torino 2-0 (0-0)

Fiorentina: Toldo, Carnasciali, A. Orlando (1' S.H. M.Orlando), Piacentini, Serena, Malusci, Schwarz, Bigica (34' S.H. Sottili), Batistuta, Rui Costa, Robbiati (1' S.H. Banchelli).

Torino: Biato, Angloma, Milanese, Falcone (15' S.H. Bernardini), Bacci, Moro, Dal Canto, Maltagliati, Hakan (25' S.H. Dionigi), Rizzitelli, Pele'. Goals: S.H. 11' And 15' Banchelli.

Attendance: 38,697

UDINESE-CAGLIARI 1-0 (0-0)

Udinese: Battistini, Helveg (32' F.H. Bertotto), Sergio, Calori, Bia, Desideri, Ametrano, Rossitto, Bierhoff, Kozminski (1' S.H. Stroppa), Poggi (38' S.H. Giannichedda).

Cagliari: Fiori, Pancaro (17' S.H. Silva), Pusceddu, Bonomi, Villa, Firicano, Bisoli, Allegri (5' S.H. Bressan), Oliveira, Sanna (30' S.H. Lantignotti), Muzzi. Goal: S.H. 10' Bierhoff.

Attendance: 14 Thousand.

INTER-VICENZA 1-0 (0-0)

Inter: Pagliuca, Zanetti, Festa, Fresi, M. Paganin, Roberto Carlos (40' S.H. Bergomi), Berti (11' S.H. Bianchi), Dell'anno, Ince, Ganz, Delvecchio (11' S.H. Fontolan).

Vicenza: Mondini, Sartor, Bjorklund, Lopez, D'ignazio, Mendez, Di Carlo, Maini, Lombardini (20' S.H. Rossi), Murgita, Otero (24' S.H. Briaschi). Goals: S.H. 7' Roberto Carlos.

Attendance: 60,000.

BARI-NAPOLI 1-1 (1-0)

Bari: Fontana, Ricci, Mangone, Sala (7' S.H. Montanari), Annoni, Gautieri, Pedone, Abel Xavier (31' F.H. Ficini), Manighetti, Andersson, Protti.

Napoli: Tagliafata, Cruz, Tarantino, Ayala, Baldini, Pari, Buso, Boghossian (31' F.H. Di Napoli), Pecchia (26' S.H. Longo), Agostini (43' S.H. Colonnese), Pizzi.

Goals: F.H. 3' Protti, S.H. 42' Cruz (Penalty).

Attendance 30,000.

ATALANTA-PARMA 1-1 (0-0)

Atalanta: Ferron, Paganin (19' S.H. Rotella, 32' S.H. Pisani), Luppi, Valentini, Zanchi, Fortunato, Minaudo (13' S.H. Boselli), Sgro', Bonacina, Tovalieri, Vieri, (12 Pinato, 10 Morfeo).

Parma: Bucci, Benarrivo, Minotti (21' S.H. Couto), Apolloni, Mussi, Sensini, Brambilla, D. Baggio (46' S.H. Crippa), Inzaghi (19' S.H. Mellì), Zola, Stoichkov.

Goals: S.H. 31' Stoichkov, 47' Vieri.

Attendance: 23 Thousand.

PADOVA-MILAN 1-2 (1-2)

Padova: Bonaiuti, Sconziano (43' S.H. Fiore), Rosa, Giampietro, Lalas, Gabrieli, Coppola, Nunziata, Longhi, Galderisi, Amoruso, (12 Dal Bianco, 13 Ossari, 16 Piovesan, 24 Molinari).

Milan: Rossi, Panucci, Coco, Albertini, Costacurta, Baresi, Lentini, Desailly, Weah, Savisevic (16' S.H. Simone), Baggio (30 St Donadoni).

Goals: F.H. 6' Weah, 34' Amoruso, 44' Baresi.

Attendance: 25,807

JUVENTUS-CREMONESE 4-1 (1-1)

Juventus: Peruzzi, Ferrara, Pessotto, Tacchinardi, Vierchowod, Paulo Sousa (18' S.H. Del Piero), Di Livio (27' S.H. Conte), Deschamps, Vialli (11' S.H. Padovano), Jugovic, Ravanelli.

Cremonese: Turci, Garzya, Orlando, Cristiani (1' S.H. Florijancic), Dalligna, Verdelli, Perovic, Giandeibaggi, Maspeo, De Agostini (32' S.H. Nicolini), Tentoni.

Goals: F.H. 17' Jugovic; S.H. 5' Maspero, 20' Ravanelli, 26' Ravanelli (Penalty), 43' Tentoni (Own Goal).

Attendance: 35 Thousand.

LAZIO-PIACENZA 4-1 (1-0)

Lazio: Marchegiani, Gottardi, Negro, Chamot, Favalli, Fuser, Di Matteo, Piovanni (1' S.H. Winter), Esposito (31' S.H. Rambaudi), Boksic, Signori (18' S.H. Casiraghi).

Piacenza: Taibi, Colonia, Rossini, Lucci, Conte (14' F.H. Macoppi), Di Francesco, Corini (20' S.H. Moretti), Carbone (15' S.H. Cappellini), Turrini, Caccia, Piovani.

Goals: F.H. 34' Signori; S.H. 3' And 35' Esposito, 40' Casiraghi (Penalty), 42' Caccia (Penalty).

Attendance: 42,705

SAMPDORIA-ROMA 1-1 (1-1)

Sampdoria: Pagotto, Balleri, Sacchetti, Invernizzi, Franceschetti, Mannini, Karembeu, Seedorf (18' S.H. Salsano), Bellucci, Mancini, Maniero (26' S.H. Evani).

Roma: Cervone, Aldair, Lanna, Di Biagio (33' S.H. Cappioli), Petrucci, Carboni, Statuto, Thern, Balbo, Totti (1' S.H. Beretta), Branca.

Goals: F.H. 21' Karembeu, 23' Branca.

Attendance: 28,000.

FH (FIRST HALF)

SH (SECOND HALF)



Ac Milan President Silvio Berlusconi with new recruits Roberto Baggio and George Weah. Weah scored in his league debut.

RESULTS

SERIE A

— August 27 —

Atalanta	1	Parma	1
Bari	1	Napoli	1
Fiorentina	2	Torino	0
Inter	1	Vicenza	0
Juventus	4	Cremonese	1
Lazio	4	Piacenza	1
Padova	1	Milan	2
Sampdoria	1	Roma	1
Udinese	1	Cagliari	0

SERIE B

Cesena	1	Pistoiese	0
F.Andria	0	Bologna	2
Lucchese	1	Chievo	1
Pescara	2	Brescia	4
Perugia	1	Foggia	1
Reggiana	0	Palermo	0
Reggina	2	Ancona	2
Salernitana	1	Cosenza	0
Venezia	0	Avellino	2
Verona	2	Genoa	0

Baresi scores in uneventful opener

The many observers expecting sparks to fly as AC Milan's Mercurial Montenegrin Savicevic joined forces with close season signing Roberto Baggio, ex-world player of the year, were disappointed as both were substituted in the second half.

AC's stars were veteran defender Franco Baresi, who scored the match-winner late in the first half, and Liberian striker George Weah, who grabbed an early goal against lowly Padova and impressed throughout with fine runs.

Inter, newly ambitious after a set of signings, had Brazilian defender Roberto Carlos to thank for their win over a gritty Vicenza side, with the attacking pair of Ganz and Del Vecchio and the midfield coupling of Paul Ince and Nicola Berti still having to look for each other too often.

After holding out for a half, Torino sagged in the second half in Florence, and Fiorentina took the 3 points with a brace from youngster Banchelli. Torino's Turkish signing Hakan Suker disappointed many, but Fiorentina's Argentinian ace Gabriel Batistuta, last season's top goalscorer in Serie A, was already impressive.

In the evening match, Sampdoria and Roma were both entitled to feel satisfied with a draw after an attractive game between two well-drilled sides.

PSG STILL ON TOP IN FRANCE

Dethroned champion Paris St Germain stayed top of the French first division with a 2-0 win over Le Havre 2-0 last week.

Julio Cesar Dely Valdes shot PSG ahead in the 28th minute and Youri Djorkaeff sealed victory with a second a minute from time.

The ambitious Paris club and unfancied Metz, which beat Strasbourg 3-2 in a tense clash between the two major clubs from eastern France, boast 14 points from six games. Paris has a better goal difference.

A Marc Keller double was not enough for Strasbourg which fell behind to a Cyril Pouget goal after 17 minutes.

Keller equalised eight minutes later but Metz then moved up a gear with a brilliant goal by Brazilian Isaias just before half-time and a penalty by Sylvain Kastendeuch four minutes after the break.

Strasbourg kept battling away but had to be content with a second strike by Keller in the 69th minute. Metz and Paris St Germain are the only unbeaten teams in the

division following newly-promoted Guingamp's 4-0 thrashing at St Etienne.

Champion Nantes, far less impressive than its Paris rival since the season opened last month, was held to a goalless draw at bottom-placed Lille on Friday to be fourth, four points behind the leader.

There was plenty of goalmouth action in Bordeaux where Monaco cruised to a 4-2 win, 20-year-old Liberian striker Christopher Wreh scoring twice. Monaco also trails Paris St Germain by four points.

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Second Leg

In Batumi: Samtredia (Georgia) 0 Vardar (Macedonia) 2 (halftime 0-2)
Scorers: Zaiko Serafimovsky (20th), Goran Petrovsky (39th)
Attendance: 25,000
Vardar win 3-0 on aggregate

In Tirana: FC Partizan (Albania) 0 Fenerbahce (Turkey) 4 (0-2)
Scorers: Uygun Bulent (21st), Sentur Kemal etin (26th), Elvis Bolic (60th) and Kocaman Aykut (86th).
Attendance: 8,000
Fenerbahce win 6-0 on aggregate

In Yerevan: Shirak Yerevan (Armenia) 0 Zagłębie Lubin (Poland) 1 (0-1)
Scorer: Stefan Makhai (24th)
Attendance: 18,000
Zagłębie Lubin win 1-0 on aggregate

In Tbilisi: Dynamo Tbilisi (Georgia) 0 Botev Plovdiv (Bulgaria) 1 (0-0)
Scorer: Vidulov (88th)
Attendance: 15,000
Botev Plovdiv win 2-0 on aggregate

In Lodz: Widzew Lodz (Poland) 1 Bangor City (Wales) 0 (0-0)
Scorer: Bogdan Pukuta (84th)
Attendance: 5,000
Widzew Lodz win 5-0 on aggregate

In Anjalanko: MyPa-47 (Finland) 0 Motherwell (Scotland) 2 (0-1)
Scorers: Alex Burns (28th) Douglas Arnott (69th)
Attendance: 4,000
Aggregate: 3-3. MyPa win on away goals rule

In Tel Aviv: Hapoel Tel Aviv (Israel) 0 Zimbru Chisinau (Moldavia) 0.
Attendance: 3,000
Zimbru Chisinau win 2-0 on aggregate

In Prague: Slavia Prague (Czech Republic) 1 Sturm Graz (Austria) 1 (1-0)
Scorers: Slavia Prague - Martin Hysky (45th), Sturm Graz - Mario Haas (54th)
Attendance: 5,430
Slavia win 2-1 on aggregate

In Strasbourg: Strasbourg (France) 6 Tyrol Innsbruck (Austria) 1 (1-0)
Scorers: Strasbourg - Franck Sauzee (16th, 54th), Alexander Mostovoi (65th), Marc Keller (67th, 70th, 90th)
FC Tyrol - Roland Kirchler (51st)
Attendance: 20,000
Strasbourg won 7-2 on aggregate

In Tallinn: Flora Tallinn (Estonia) 1 Lillestrom (Norway) 0 (0-0)
Scorer: Otar Korgalidze (52nd)
Attendance: 1,000
Lillestrom win 4-1 on aggregate

In Odessa: Chornomorets Odessa (Ukraine) 2 Hibernians (Malta) 0 (1-0)
Scorers: Kozakevich (32nd), Musaitdin (78th)
Attendance: 4,000
Chornomorets win 7-2 on aggregate

In Riga: RAF Riga (Latvia) 0 Alan Lido (Wales) 0
Attendance: 1,100
RAF Riga win 2-1 on aggregate

In Beer Cheva: Hapoel Beer Cheva (Israel) 2 SC Tirana (Albania) 0 (2-0)
Scorers: Sergei Gussev (20th), Amir Avigord (23rd)
Attendance: 5,000
Hapoel Beersheva win 3-0 on aggregate

In Minsk: Dinamo Minsk (Belarus) 0 Universitatea Craiova (Romania) 0
Attendance: 8,000
Dinamo Minsk win 3-1 on penalties.

In Istanbul: Galatasaray (Turkey) 1 FC Sparta Prague (Czech Republic) 1 (1-1)
Scorers: Galatasaray - Dean Saunders (4th), Sparta Prague - Pavel Nedved (23rd)
Attendance: 28,000
Sparta Prague win 4-2 on aggregate

In Ljubljana: Olimpija (Slovenia) 3 Apollon Athens (Greece) 1 (1-1) **Scorers:** Olimpija - Bozzo (10th, 66th), Zulic (81st)
Apollon - Nikolaidis (2nd)
Attendance: 4,000
Olimpija win 3-2 on aggregate

In Budapest: Ujpest Budapest (Hungary) 2 FC Kosice (Slovakia) 1 (0-0)
Scorers: Ujpest - Balazs Berczy (56th minute), Karoly Szanyo (81st)
Kosice - Vladimir Weise (85th)
Attendance: 6,000
Ujpest win 3-1 on aggregate

In Stavanger: Viking FK (Norway) 3 Tampere (Finland) 1 (2-0)
Scorers: Viking - Tommy Bergersen (4th, 41st), Goeran Soerlot (63rd)

Tampere - Jerko Wiss (89th, penalty)
Attendance: 2,354
Viking win 7-1 on aggregate

In Sofia: Levski Sofia (Bulgaria) 1 Dinamo Bucharest (Romania) 1 after extra time (halftime 0-0, 90 mins 0-1, aggregate 1-1)
Scorers: Levski - Ivan Vassilev (108th), Dinamo - Danut Lupu (70th)
Attendance: 15,000
Levski Sofia win 2-1 on aggregate

In Kaunas: Inkarsas-Grifas (Lithuania) 0 Brondby (Denmark) 3 (0-0)
Scorers: Peter Moller (52nd, 66th), Jans Risager (67th)
Attendance: 8,000
Brondby win 6-0 on aggregate

In Silkeborg: Silkeborg (Denmark) 4 Crusaders (Northern Ireland) 0 (1-0)
Scorers: Michael Larsen (10th), Heine Fernandez (61st), Kenni Sommer (69th, 85th)
Attendance: 4,339
Silkeborg win 6-1 on aggregate

In Tofte: Gotu Iottrarielag (Faroe Islands) 2 Raith Rovers (Scotland) 2 (0-1)
Scorers: Gotu - Henning Jarnskov (77th), Magni Jarnskov (87th)
Raith Rovers - Daniel Lennon (30th), Stephen Crawford (82nd)
Attendance: 350
Raith Rovers win 6-2 on aggregate

In Neuchatel: Neuchatel Xamax (Switzerland) 0 Red Star Belgrade (Yugoslavia) 0
Attendance: 12,000
Neuchatel won 1-0 on aggregate

In Beggen: Avenir Beggen (Luxembourg) 1 Orebro (Sweden) 1 (1-0)
Scorers: Avenir Beggen - Luc Holtz (21st), Orebro - Hlymur Birgirsson (88th)
Attendance: 1,200
Orebro win on away goals rule

In Athens: Olympiakos Piraeus (Greece) 1 Slavia Sofia (Bulgaria) 0 (1-0)
Scorer: Ilia Ivic (10th minute)
Attendance: 20,000
Olympiakos win 3-0 on aggregate

In Valletta: Siema Wanderers (Malta) 1 Omonia Nicosia (Cyprus) 2 (1-0)
Scorers: Siema - Hubert Suda (43rd), Omonia - Stefan Valentin (70th), Panayiotis Panayiota (88th)
Attendance: 1,500
Omonia win 5-1 on aggregate

In Bordeaux: Bordeaux (France) 2 Karlsruhe (Germany) 2 (2-1)
Scorers: Bordeaux - Bixente Lizarazu (2nd pen, 10th), Karlsruhe - Thorsten Fink (39th), Edgar Schmitt (88th)
Attendance: 15,000
Bordeaux win 4-2 on aggregate

In Vienna: FK Austria Memphis (Austria) 5 Kapaz Ganja (Azerbaijan) 1 (4-1)
Scorers: FK Austria - Mjelde (10th, 29th), Ogris (18th, 42nd), Glatzer (64th), Kapaz - Suleymanov (26th)
Attendance: 1,700
FK Austria win 9-1 on aggregate

In Maribor: Maribor Branik (Slovenia) 2 Skonto Riga (Latvia) 0 (2-0)
Attendance: goalscorers unavailable
Maribor win 2-1 on aggregate

In Malmö: Malmö (Sweden) 2 Dundalk (Ireland) 0 (1-0)
Scorers: Anders Andersson (22nd), Jens Fjellstrom (50th)
Attendance: 4,112
Malmö won 4-0 on aggregate

In Lugano: Lugano (Switzerland) 4 Jeunesse d'Esch (Luxembourg) 0 (3-0)
Scorers: Tomislav Erceg (18th, 45th, 54th), Antonio Esposito (34th)
Attendance: 4,000
Lugano won 4-0 on aggregate

In Hafnarfjörður: Hafnarfjörður (Iceland) 0 Glenavon (Northern Ireland) 1 (0-0)
Attendance: 500
Glenavon won 1-0 on aggregate

In Akranes: Akranes (Iceland) 3 Shelbourne (Ireland) 0 (1-0)
Scorers: Sigurdur Jonsson, Olafur Thordarson, Bjarki Petursson.
Attendance: 1,500
Akranes won 6-0 on aggregate

PROMISING TURKS OUT EARLY

Galatasaray, which played in the European Cup Champions' League in the last two seasons, crashed out of the UEFA Cup at the first hurdle last week.

The Turks, reinforced in the close season by expertise from former European champion club Liverpool, were held 1-1 at home by Sparta Prague in the second leg of the preliminary round tie, winning 2-1 on aggregate.

Wales striker Dean Saunders, one of several former Liverpool players to



Graeme Souness:
Shock exit.

follow coach Graeme Souness to Galatasaray in the off-season, gave the Turks a heartening fourth minute lead on the night as they set out to cancel the two-goal deficit.

But, leaving themselves open at the back, Galatasaray succumbed to a 23rd-minute equaliser by Pavel Nedved, who scored twice in the first leg, and failed to breach the Czechs' defence again despite raucous support from a 28,000 crowd.

Strasbourg's Marc Keller scored a hat-trick in the last 23 minutes as the French side crushed FC Tyrol of Innsbruck 6-1 and 7-2 on aggregate.

French international Franck Sauzee, who scored in the 1-1 draw in the first leg in Austria two weeks ago, hit one goal in each half.

Motherwell of Scotland fought back from a shock 3-1 loss at home in the first leg to beat MyPa-47 of Finland 2-0 away for a 3-3 aggregate. But the goals by Alex Burns and Douglas Arnott were not enough, the Scots going out on the away goals rule.



Dean Saunders:
His goal was not enough.

Upsets prominent, Rangers through

Eastern European clubs won berths in the lucrative Champions' League as the likes of Anderlecht and IFK Gothenburg crashed out of the European Cup last week.

Ferencvaros of Hungary, who reached the Cup Winners' Cup final in 1975 and won the Fairs Cup 10 years earlier, disposed of the Belgian champions with a 1-1 draw in the second leg of their preliminary round tie, winning 2-1 on aggregate.

Serbian striker Goran Kopunovic scored the decisive goal four minutes after half-time with a shot from six metres, putting the Hungarian side two up on aggregate.

Gilles de Bilde's 64th-minute equaliser was all the Belgians, who sacked their German coach Herbert Neumann last week after losing their first three matches of the season, could manage in reply despite dominating the last half hour.

Legia Warsaw put out Gothenburg, who won their group in last season's Champions' League before being eliminated in the quarter-finals, 3-1 on aggregate.

The Swedes, beaten 1-0 in the first leg in Warsaw, levelled the aggregate score with Jesper Blomqvist's 25th-minute strike. But goals by Leszek Pisz and Jacek Bednarz in the final 17 minutes saw the Poles through.

Steaua Bucharest, who won the trophy in 1986, went through by a solitary goal — scored by Adrian Ilie — against Salzburg following a 0-0 draw in Austria two weeks ago.



Jorge Barelli: Scored a crucial goal for Panathinaikos.

the war in the Balkans, took a fourth-minute lead through Igor Stimac.

Rosenborg of Norway survived a late onslaught from Turkish champions Besiktas, who scored twice in the last five minutes, to go through 4-3 on aggregate after losing the second leg 3-1.

Veteran former German international Stefan Kuntz reduced the arrears after eight minutes, but Besiktas failed to capitalise and Harald Brattbakk equalised in the 68th.

The tie seemed over, but Kuntz again narrowed the deficit with an 85th-minute penalty and two minutes later Mehmet Ozdilek made it 3-1, setting up a nail-biting finale.

Glasgow Rangers, whose failure to reach the Champions' League in the last two seasons prompted their off-season team building including the signing of England star Paul Gascoigne, barely scraped through against Anorthosis Famagusta.

Held 0-0 by the Cypriot side, they qualified thanks to the goal scored by Scotland winger Gordon Durie in the first leg.

Rangers lost Gascoigne after only 25 minutes with a groin injury.

"We are delighted to be into the Champions' League again and it was a big thing for the club to get through," said manager Walter Smith.

"Now I hope the team settles down and in a couple of months we will hopefully be stronger."

Anorthosis' Bulgarian coach George Vassiliev, who dumped Rangers out of the Champions' League with Levski Sofia in 1993, said:

"The tie was decided in Glasgow when we had chances to score but didn't."

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Second Leg

In Tel Aviv: Maccabi Tel Aviv (Israel) 0 Grasshoppers Zurich (Switzerland) 1 (halftime 0-1)

Scorer: Alexandre Comisetti (5th minute)

Grasshoppers won 2-1 on aggregate.

Attendance: 15,000

In Budapest: Ferencvaros (Hungary) 1 Anderlecht (Belgium) 1 (0-0)

Scorers: Ferencvaros - Goran Kopunovic (49th)

Anderlecht - Gilles de Bilde (65th)

Attendance: 18,000

Ferencvaros won 2-1 on aggregate

In Bucharest: Steaua Bucharest (Romania) 1 Salzburg (Austria) 0 (1-0)

Scorer: Adrian Ilie (32nd)

Attendance: 20,000

Steaua won 1-0 on aggregate

In Istanbul: Besiktas (Turkey) 3 Rosenborg (Norway) 1 (1-0)

Scorers: Besiktas - Stefan Kuntz (8th, penalty 85th), Mehmet Ozdilek (87th)

Rosenborg - Harald Brattbakk (68th)

Attendance: 35,000

Rosenborg won 4-3 on aggregate

In Larnaca: Anorthosis Famagusta (Cyprus) 0 Glasgow Rangers (Scotland) 0 (halftime 0-0)

Rangers won 1-0 on aggregate

In Stockholm: IFK Gothenburg (Sweden) 1 Legia Warsaw (Poland) 2 (1-0)

Warsaw - Leszek Pisz (73rd), Jacek Bednarz (90th)

Gothenburg - Jesper Blomqvist (25th)

Attendance: 11,017

Legia Warsaw won 3-1 on aggregate

In Aalborg: Aalborg (Denmark) 1 Dynamo Kiev (Ukraine) 3 (0-1)

Scorers: Aalborg - Peter Rasmussen (86th)

Dynamo Kiev - Yuri Kalivintsev (36th)

Andrei Shevchenko (49th, 76th)

Attendance: 10,100

Dynamo Kiev won 4-1 on aggregate

In Rijeka: Hajduk Split (Croatia) 1 Panathinaikos (Greece) 1 (1-0)

Scorers: Hajduk - Igor Stimac (4th)

Panathinaikos - Juan Jose Borrelli (55th)

Attendance: 11,000

Panathinaikos won 2-1 on away goals rule

CUP WINNERS CUP

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Second Leg

In Sion: Sion (Switzerland) 3 Tiligul Tiraspol (Moldova) 2 (3-0)
Scorers: Sion - Heinz Moser (2nd), Dominique Herr (28th), Christophe Bonvin (44th)
Tiraspol - Oprea (79th), Popovitschi (90th)

Attendance: 6,500

Sion won 3-2 on aggregate

In Reykjavik: Reykjavik (Iceland) 2 Grevenmacher (Luxemburg) 0 (1-0)
Scorers: Mihailo Bibercic (45th), Saliheimir Porsa (75th)

Attendance: 1,600

Reykjavik win 4-3 on aggregate.

In Batumi: Dynamo Batumi (Georgia) 2 Obilic (Yugoslavia) 2 (halftime 0-2)
Scorers: Dynamo Batumi - Machutadze (65th minute), Mudzhibri (82nd, penalty)
FC Obilic - Vilotovich (8th), Popovich (32nd)

Attendance: 25,000

Dynamo Batumi won 3-2 on aggregate

In Ploiesti: Petrolul Ploiesti (Romania) 1 Wrexham (Wales) 0 (0-0)
Scorer: Mihai Pirlog (59th)

Attendance: 10,000

Petrolul Ploiesti won 1-0 on aggregate

In Tirana: FC Teuta (Albania) 3 TPS Turku (Finland) 0 (2-0)
Scorers: Arta Vila (8th), Elton Koca (19th), Ardian Bushi (55th)

Attendance: 5,000

Teuta won 3-1 on aggregate

In Hradec Kralove: Hradec Kralove (Czech Republic) 9 FC Vaduz (Liechtenstein) 1 (5-1)
Scorers: Hradec Kralove - Samec (4th, 9th, 30th and 53rd), Urban (15th and 82nd, penalty), Vrabel (37th, 50th, penalty), Smarda (64th)
Vaduz - Ritter (27th)

Attendance: 3,558

Hradec Kralove won 14-1 on aggregate

In Kratovo: FC Sileks (Macedonia) 3 Vac Samsung (Hungary) 1 (2-1)

Scorers: FC Sileks - Memedi (15th, 67th), Borov (35th). Vac Samsung - Orguja (20th)

Attendance: 12,000

FC Sileks won 4-2 on aggregate.

In Murska Sobota: Mura (Slovenia) 2 Zalgiris (Lithuania) 1 (1-0)

Scorers: Mura - Kokol (10th), Alihod (90th)

Zalgiris - Vencevicius (72nd)

Attendance: 5,000

Zalgiris won 3-2 on aggregate

In Sumgait: Nefsi Baku (Azerbaijan) 0 Apoel Nicosia (Cyprus) 0

Attendance: 4,000

Apoel won 3-0 on aggregate

In Yerevan: Ararat (Armenia) 2 Katowice (Poland) 0 (2-0)

Scorers: Gspyan (23rd), Tonoyan (26th, penalty)

Attendance: 7,000

Aggregate score 2-2. Ararat won 5-4 on penalties

In Tallinn: FC Lantana (Estonia) 0 Dag Liepaja (Latvia) 0

Attendance: 800

Dag Liepaja won 3-0 on aggregate

(Note: FC Lantana won the first leg 2-1 but UEFA subsequently awarded the match 3-0 to the Latvians because Lantana fielded an ineligible player)

In Sofia: Lokomotiv Sofia (Bulgaria) 2 Derry City (Ireland) 0 (2-0)

Scorers: Lokomotiv - Ivo Slavchev (6th), Boris Hvoinev (29th)

Attendance: 4,000

Lokomotiv won 2-1 on aggregate

In Molde: Molde FK (Norway) 2 Dinamo-93 Minsk 1 (1-1)

Scorers: Molde - Ole Gunnar Solskjær (4th), Arild Stavsum (67th)

Dinamo - Vadim Skripchenko (19th)

Attendance: 2,989

Molde won 3-2 on aggregate

In Bratislava: Inter Bratislava (Slovakia) 5 La Valetta (Malta) 2 (2-0)

Scorers: Inter Bratislava - Tomko (15th, 39th), Rupec (10th), Saliba (79th own goal), Landerl (85th)

La Valetta - Doncic (61st), Zarb (84th)

Attendance: 2,300

Inter won 5-2 on aggregate

In Toftir: Klaksvíkar (Faroe Islands) 3 Maccabi Haifa (Israel) 2 (0-1)

Scorers: Klaksvíkar - Olgar Danielsen (53rd, 63rd, 70th)

Maccabi - Haim Revivo (31st), Ofer Shitrit (84th)

Attendance: 295

Maccabi won 6-3 on aggregate

In Belfast: Linfield (Northern Ireland) 0 Shakhtar Donetsk (Ukraine) 1 (0-0)

Scorer: Alexander Voskoboinic (86th)

Attendance: 3,000

Shakhtar won 5-1 on aggregate.

CHAMPIONS' LEAGUE

European champions' Cup holder Ajax of Amsterdam found itself drawn against six-times winner Real Madrid for their opening clash in this year's competition.

The two former champions will meet in Group D on September 13 in Amsterdam when UEFA's premier soccer competition kicks off.

Italy's Juventus, who have won all three European club competitions in the past, will meet Borussia Dortmund of Germany in Group C.

In Group A, French champions



Celebration: Forward Fabrizio Ravanelli and coach Marcello Lippi celebrate Juventus' Serie A win last season. Juventus have drawn Borussia Dortmund first up in the Champions' League.

UEFA CUP

TO BE PLAYED SEPTEMBER 12 AND 26 (x-denotes seeded teams):

- x-Olympiakos Piraeus (Greece) v Maribor Branik (Slovenia)
- x-Barcelona (Spain) v Hapoel Beer Sheva (Israel)
- Lazio (Italy) v Omonia Nicosia (Cyprus)
- Strasbourg (France) v Ujpest Budapest (Hungary)
- x-AC Milan (Italy) v Zaagelbie Lubin (Poland)
- x-Bordeaux (France) v Vardar (Macedonia)
- Vitoria SC (Portugal) v Standard Liege (Belgium)
- Fenerbahce (Turkey) v Real Betis (Spain)
- Rotor Volgograd (Russia) v x-Manchester United (England)
- MyPa-47 (Finland) v x-PSV Eindhoven (Netherlands)
- Lens (France) v Beggen (Luxembourg)
- Sparta Prague (Czech Republic) v Silkeborg (Denmark)
- Lierse (Belgium) v x-Benfica (Portugal)
- Neuchatel (Switzerland) v x-Roma (Italy)
- Sevilla (Spain) v Botvne Plovdiv (Bulgaria)
- Roda JC Kerkrade (Netherlands) v Olimpija (Slovenia)
- x-Bayern Munich (Germany) v Lokomotiv Moscow (Russia)
- x-FK Austria Memphis (Austria) v Dinamo Minsk (Belarus)
- Malmo (Sweden) v Nottingham Forest (England)
- Chernomorets Odessa (Ukraine) v Widzew Lodz (Poland)
- x-Monaco (France) v Leeds United (England)
- x-Brondby (Denmark) v Lillestrom (Norway)
- Raith Rovers (Scotland) v Akranes (Iceland)
- Freiburg (Germany) v Slavia Prague (Czech Republic)
- Slovan Bratislava (Slovakia) v x-Kaiserauern (Germany)
- Lugano (Switzerland) v x-Internazionale (Italy)
- Farense (Portugal) v Lyon (France)
- Levski Sofia (Bulgaria) v Aalst (Belgium)
- x-Werder Bremen (Germany) v Glenavon (Northern Ireland)
- Stavanger (Norway) v Auxerre (France)
- Spartak Vladikavkaz (Russia) v Liverpool
- Zimbru Chisinau (Moldavia) v RAG Riga (Latvia)

GROUP A

- Panathinaikos (Greece)
- x-Nantes (France)
- x-FC Porto (Portugal)
- Dynamo Kiev (Ukraine)

GROUP B

- x-Spartak Moscow (Russia)
- Legia Warsaw (Poland)
- Rosenborg (Norway)
- x-Blackburn Rovers (England)

GROUP C

- Glasgow Rangers (Scotland)
- x-Borussia Dortmund (Germany)
- x-Juventus (Italy)
- Steaua Bucharest (Romania)

GROUP D

- Fernencvaros (Hungary)
- x-Ajax Amsterdam (Netherlands)
- x-Real Madrid (Spain)
- Grasshoppers Zurich (Switzerland)

SEPTEMBER 13

- Group A
- Nantes v FC Porto
- Dynamo Kiev v Panathinaikos

Group B

- Legia Warsaw v Rosenborg
- Blackburn v Spartak Moscow

Group C

- Borussia Dortmund v Juventus
- Steaua Bucharest v Glasgow

Group D

- Rangers

Group A

- Ajax Amsterdam v Real Madrid

Group B

- Grasshoppers v Ferencvaros

September 27

- Group A
- Panathinaikos v Nantes
- FC Porto v Dynamo Kiev

Group B

- Spartak Moscow v Legia Warsaw

Group C

- Rosenborg v Blackburn Rovers

Group D

- Glasgow Rangers v Juventus

Group A

- Steaua Bucharest v Borussia Dortmund

Group B

- Glasgow Rangers v Steaua Bucharest

Group C

- Juventus v Steaua Bucharest

Group D

- Ferencvaros v Grasshoppers

OCTOBER 18

- Group A
- Nantes v Dynamo Kiev
- FC Porto v Panathinaikos

Group B

- Legia Warsaw v Blackburn Rovers

Group C

- Rosenborg v Spartak Moscow

Group D

- Borussia Dortmund v Steaua Bucharest

Group A

- Juventus v Glasgow Rangers

Group B

- Ajax Amsterdam v Grasshoppers

Group C

- Real Madrid v Ferencvaros

Group D

- Ferencvaros v Grasshoppers

NOVEMBER 1st

- Group A
- Panathinaikos v FC Porto
- Dynamo Kiev v Nantes

Group B

- Spartak Moscow v Rosenborg
- Blackburn Rovers v Legia Warsaw

Group C

- Glasgow Rangers v Juventus
- Steaua Bucharest v Borussia Dortmund

Group D

- Mund



Croatian Corner

By John Viskovich



VUCEVIC SIGNS TILL 2000

Goran Vucevic has just signed a contract with Barcelona which will keep him at the club till the Year 2000.

Barcelona coach Johan Cruyff said Goran is part of the future team but will not be used next season.

This statement has raised eyebrows and Hajduk player Aljosha Asanovic rang Goran and told him he should not have signed." Goran has the talent to play anywhere, all he needs is a chance."

In 1992 Goran Vucevic was voted the best player in Croatia which resulted in a big \$A5 million move to Barcelona. However he is yet to play for the first team and it looks like he will want a few more years before he does. In this time he is still being paid as if he was playing for the first team.

STRIKING VLAOVIC

Padova's Croatian striker Goran Vlaovic says he is ready for a big season in next seasons Serie A.

Vlaovic only scored six goals for Padova last season compared to the 22 goals in 1993 and 29 goals in 1994 for Dinamo Zagreb. This time he has more responsibility and will once again fight to keep Padova in Serie A.

Goran who had an offer from Paris St Germain said he knocked it back because he really enjoyed life in Italy. The 21-year-old said he was shocked that Padova bought him in 94 because he didn't play in the World Cup and so many World Cup players wanted to play in Italy.

He said the only way to thank Padova for his big chance is by scoring a bag of goals next season.



Vlaovic: Goran loves life in Italy

SPEHAR AT BRUGGE

Robert Spehar is set for big things at his new club, Club Brugge. After being top scorer in 1995 for Osijek in Croatia with 24 goals it didn't take long before offers came rolling in.

The striker who has played for the Croatian National team chose Club Brugge because they also bought another Croatian Mario Stanic from Benfica.

Spehar has been a little overshadowed by fine performances by midfielder Marco Stanic. Mario scored two cracker goals against Hajduk for Brugge in a friendly and the Croatians as a duo look very effective.

The two Croats are guaranteed a first team spot while the third foreigner will be from Australia, the stylish Paul Okon.

AUSTRIA'S KOCIJAN

After spending most of his life playing in Austria, Tomislav Kocjan is no longer a Croatian import but rather an Austrian citizen.

Last season was the first time Tomislav Kocjan won the championship with Casino Salzburg.

He will now look to keep the form which has made him one of the best players in Austria.

Kocjan is what you call a utility player.

The team also features Croatian Dean Racunica, Mladen Mladenovic and Nikola Jurcevic as well as Croatian coach Otto Baric. That's five Croatians at the one team. No wonder Austrian fans call Casino "little Croatia".

HAJDUK BOW OUT

Hajduk Split had a 1-1 draw with Panathinaikos in Rijeka which gave Panathinaikos a 2-1 win on away goals. Not playing in Split and without much of the Torcida fans in Rijeka, Hajduk found it hard against the Greeks in the Champions Cup qualifier.

The thing everyone should learn about this is never to underestimate the Greek teams. The Greeks have no players who play in other leagues across Europe and the cream of the players are playing for Panathinaikos, AEK, Paok and Olympiakos. These teams are hard to beat and Hajduk can't compete if it's going to sell their best players to Italian, Spanish, German and Austrian teams.

There are no excuses for Hajduk



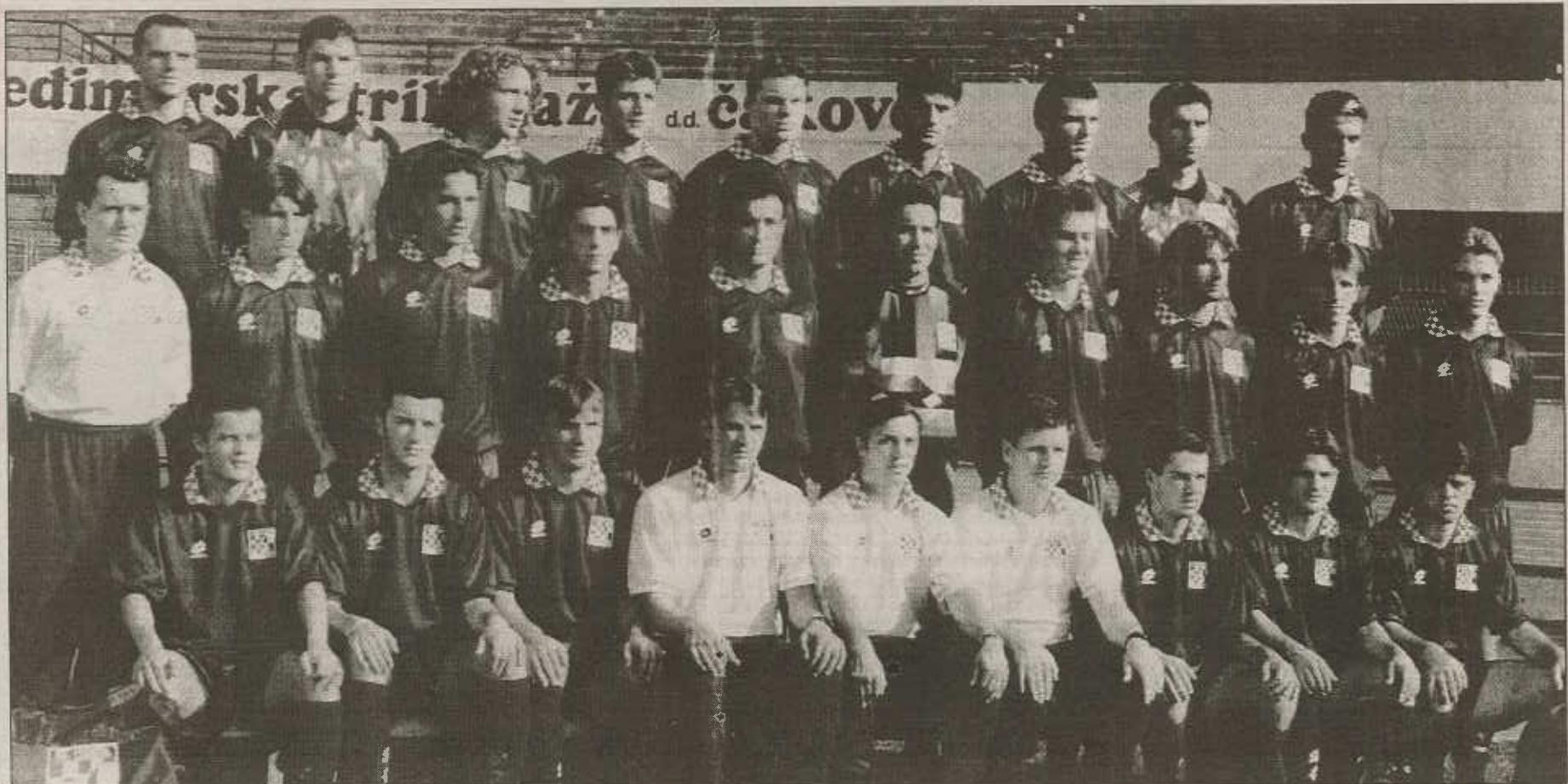
Robert Spehar: Joins Paul Okon at Club Brugge.

MYSTERY PLAYERS

Recently I was reading the history of Italian giants Inter Milan and came across two Croatian surnames. One is Mihalic who played for Inter in 1933, the other Borgnich who played for Inter's European Cup winning teams in 1964/1965 and finalists in 1967.

Anyone who knows more please write to John Viskovich ABSW PO Box 146 Broadway. NSW. 2007.

Mark Viduka's Croatia Zagreb



Australia's Mark Viduka (back row, fifth from left) in Croatia Zagreb's official squad photo.

BACK ROW: Tomas Ibrahimovic, Mladinic, Petrovic, Viduka, Mamic, Soldo, Butina, Sllskovic. MIDDLE ROW: (masseur) Radanovic, Maric, Sokota, Katic, Golubica, Ladic, Katalinic, Kovacic, Krzna, D. Simic. FRONT ROW: Kosic, Jelicic, Milanic, (trainer) Cvetkovic, (trainer) Kranjcar, (trainer) Vlak, Radic, Turkovic, Gaspar.

HEYSEL 1985

Time to bury the memory

Belgium tried to bury the memory of one of soccer's worst disasters last week with the opening of a new \$A38 million sport stadium on the site of the Heysel disaster in which 39 people died (see story below right).

More than 10 years after the carnage at the European Cup final match between Liverpool and Italian team Juventus, a state-of-the-art professional sports ground has arisen on the site of the tragedy.

Even the name has been changed to try to break the link with the infamous terrace stampede on May 29 1985, when hundreds of Liverpool fans charged the Juventus supporters.

Crowds of panicking spectators fled across the terraces just before the match started and were crushed in a corner when a retaining wall collapsed under the strain.

Although the Liverpool fans faced most of the blame for the catastrophe, the dilapidated state of an unsuitable venue and lax scrutiny - over the segregation of rival fans were also criticised in the political and judicial inquiries which followed.

Of the 39 fans who died that night, 32 were Italian supporters who fled across the terraces to escape the Liverpool fans, four were Belgians, two were French and the 39th was British — a European Commission official attending his first-ever football match at the invitation of a friend.



Nightmare: The wall collapses, killing 39 fans.

The game went ahead as the victims' bodies were piled up and fleets of ambulances ferried the injured to hospital — officials feared a worse riot if the event was called off.

The carnage left a

section of the terraces like a battlefield, with bodies, tattered clothing and shoes scattered everywhere.

Concrete protection barriers simply gave way under the pressure. But fans in other parts of the

ground were unaware of the scale of the horror and concentrated on a match which ended with Juventus winning 1-0 with a penalty. There were no Italian celebrations, however, as word of the deaths spread

outside the ground afterwards.

The Belgian FA has not played host to a UEFA match since then, and for years afterwards the Heysel stadium was used only for track and field events after stop-gap safety improvements. More recently Belgian clubs have played home games there.

The inauguration of the new complex, re-named the King Baudouin stadium, will attempt to draw a line under the tragedy.

The opening, which comes 65 years to the day since the original Heysel stadium opened, will reveal a thoroughly modern ground which will hold fewer supporters than before but in greater comfort and security in an all-seat, safety-conscious setting.

The standing-only terraces have been replaced by comfortable seating and a roof over the heads of up to 40,000 spectators.

Only the 1930 entrance to the ground has been preserved from the original.

The disaster stayed in the news for years afterwards as Belgian authorities painstakingly assembled evidence against Liverpool fans and finally won the extradition of the alleged culprits to face trial.

They were singled out on the basis of police video recordings of the terrace violence and were extradited in September 1987.

It was not until October



How a leading Italian soccer magazine saw the Heysel disaster.

out to the grey suburb which had become enshrined in the annals of soccer infamy.

Even today, more than 10 years after the tragedy, the word Heysel alone is enough to prompt looks of despair amongst Belgians.

The opening of the new ground will be marked by a summer parade and a friendly match with Germany — which the Belgian authorities hope will mark the return of big-time football to the country.

1988 that the trial of the 26 fans began. But attempting to apportion blame proved complex and in some cases impossible - 80 courtroom sessions later, in April

1989, 14 Liverpool fans were found guilty and given three-year jail sentences.

But they were released and sent home immediately, along with their acquitted co-accused, because of the long months they had spent on remand.

Heysel became an informal tourist attraction after that, with British visitors to Brussels heading

Rioting mars opening of stadium



Belgian police detained about 300 German supporters after violence flared before a friendly match to inaugurate a new stadium on the site of Brussels' ill-fated Heysel arena.

The disturbances last week were an unwelcome echo of the night in 1985 when 39 people were killed in rioting before the European Cup final between Liverpool and Juventus at the Heysel.

The new King Baudouin stadium, named after Belgium's late king, was opened by his widow Queen Fabiola at a ceremony before the friendly between Belgium and Germany.

The police crackdown against the unruly fans spared the Belgian union, which organised the match to celebrate its 100th anniversary, the humiliation of crowd trouble in its new arena.

No incidents were reported outside the ground during the match but police stepped in quickly to avoid a clash

About 100 fans were arrested behind the stadium

between Belgian and German fans after the final whistle.

"The Belgians had left the stadium just before the end of the match to try and mix with the Germans but we drove them back just in time," a police officer said.

"They did not want to meet for a cup of tea," he added.

Earlier, police charged a group of German fans in the streets near Brussels' Grand Place before the match and detained 25 people.

In a separate incident 27 Germans were arrested after they began throwing chairs from pavement cafes, while five others were held after ransacking a shop.

About 100 fans were arrested behind the stadium

after they tried to charge Belgian supporters.

Police said about 30 fans would be charged with violent conduct, vandalism or drug offences.

After the match police in riot gear, backed by armoured vehicles, surrounded a group of nearly 500 Germans and escorted them from the stadium on the outskirts of Brussels to the railway station.

Worried parents summoned their children indoors as the German fans were herded towards the station. Most of the fans were quickly put on a train to Aachen in Germany.

Police captain Jo De Cuyper said some fans had clearly come to Brussels set on causing trouble.

See adjacent match report.

Bobic clinches German winner

A close-range effort by Fredi Bobic seven minutes from time gave Germany a 2-1 victory over Belgium in their friendly match last week.

It was the first event in Belgium's new national stadium, built on the ruins of the ill-fated Heysel ground in which 39 people died in rioting in 1985.

The match, followed by fireworks which made the German fans' rare flares look like candle light, was staged to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Belgian union. But the festive event was marred by incidents with German hooligans before the kick-off.

In a hard-fought encounter between two heavily-depleted squads, Germany opened the scoring after just six minutes when Andy Moeller netted a close-range header.

Belgium equalised 11 minutes later when striker Michael Goossens pounced on a sharply-angled rebound. Belgium, whose



Fredi Bobic: Friendly winner.

last victory over Germany dates back to 1954, came tantalisingly close to 2-2 in the dying minutes when Luc Nilis outplayed goalkeeper Andreas Kopke but clumsily put the ball wide with the goalmouth at his mercy.

Germany were awarded a penalty kick in the 55th minute after Pascal Renier handled the ball but Moeller first saw his low drive saved by Belgian goalkeeper Gilbert Bodart and then hammered the ball high on the rebound.

WORLD RESULTS AND TABLES

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE
— August 26 —

Bolton	2	(De Freitas 21st, Stubbs 80th)
Blackburn	1	(Holmes 61st). Halftime 1-0.
Attendance:	20,253	
Coventry	0	20,065
Everton	2	(Limpar 35th, Amokachi 43rd)
Southampton	0	2-0. 33,668
Leeds	2	(Speed 3rd, White 88th) Aston Villa 0. 1-0. 35,086
Manchester United	3	(Keane 27th, 80th, Cole 60th) Wimbledon 1 (Earle 65th) 1-0. 32,226
Middlesbrough	2	(Hignett 39th, Fjortoft 74th) Chelsea 0. 1-0. 28,286
Nottingham Forest	1	(Pearce 35th pen)
West Ham	1	(Allen 14th) 1-1. 26,645
Queen's Park Rangers	1	(Barker 31st)
Manchester City	0	1-0. 14,212
Tottenham	1	(Calderwood 88th) Liverpool 3 (Barnes 8th, 43rd, Fowler 55th) 0-2. 31,254.

British Tables - Page 30
ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

Birmingham	3	Norwich	1
Crystal Palace	1	Charlton	1
Derby	1	Grimsby	1
Luton	1	Leicester	1
Millwall	0	Southend	0
Oldham	2	Sheffield United	1
Portsmouth	0	Reading	0
Sunderland	2	Wolverhampton	0
Tranmere	3	Huddersfield	1
Watford	2	Barnsley	3
West Bromwich	0	Ipswich	0
Stoke	n/a	Port Vale	n/a

ENGLISH DIVISION TWO

Bradford	3	Shrewsbury	1
Bristol City	1	Stockport	0
Burnley	1	Brentford	0
Carlisle	0	Swindon	1
Hull	2	Blackpool	1
Oxford	1	Rotherham	1
Peterborough	0	Notts County	1
Swansea	3	Chesterfield	2
Walsall	1	Bristol Rovers	1
Wrexham	1	Brighton	1
Wycombe	1	Bournemouth	2
York	2	Crewe	3

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE

Chester	3	Plymouth	1
Colchester	3	Lincoln	0
Doncaster	0	Cardiff	0
Exeter	2	Scarborough	0
Fulham	4	Torquay	0
Gillingham	3	Cambridge	0
Hereford	3	Bury	4
Leyton Orient	1	Darlington	1
Northampton	3	Mansfield	3
Preston	1	Wigan	1
Rochdale	4	Hartlepools	0
Scunthorpe	2	Barnet	0

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Falkirk	2	Aberdeen	3
Hearts	1	Motherwell	1
Partick	1	Hibernian	1
Raith	0	Celtic	1
Rangers	1	Kilmarnock	0

SCOTTISH DIVISION ONE

Dundee	1	Airdrieonians	1
Dunfermline	3	Dundee United	0
Greenock Morton	1	Dumbarton	2
St Mirren	0	St Johnstone	0
Hamilton	n/a	Clydebank	n/a

SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO

Berwick	3	Stirling	0
Clyde	1	Forfar	2
East Fife	1	Ayr	0
Montrose	1	Queen of the South	4
Stenhousemuir	3	Stranraer	0

SCOTTISH DIVISION THREE

Alloa	3	Albion	2
Arbroath	1	Livingston	3
Caledonian Thistle	1	Brechin	2
Queen's Park	3	Cowdenbeath	1
East Stirling	n/a	Ross County	n/a

SWEDISH FIRST DIVISION
— August 21 —

Helsingborg	0	Norrkoping	0
Gothenburg	3	Orebro	1
Malmo	1	Hammarby	0
Djurgarden	1	Orgryte	3
Vastra Frolunda	1	AIK	1
Halmstad	2	Oster	2
Degerfors	1	Trelleborg	0

TABLE

Helsingborg	16	8	4	4	25	17	28
Gothenburg	16	7	6	3	28	12	27
Halmstad	16	7	5	4	24	21	26
Malmo	16	6	8	2	19	16	26
Djurgarden	16	6	6	4	21	19	24
Orebro	16	5	6	5	21	19	21
Norrkoping	16	6	3	7	20	25	21
Trelleborg	16	4	7	5	23	19	19
Oster	16	4	7	5	28	26	19
AIK	16	4	7	5	21	24	19
Orgryte	16	5	4	7	12	19	19
Hammarby	16	4	4	8	15	21	16
Vastra Frolunda	16	2	9	5	17	23	15
Degerfors	16	2	8	6	15	28	14

PORTUGAL

Champions Porto and Cup holders Sporting drew 2-2 in the second leg of the Portuguese Supercup last week.
 Scorers: Porto - Paulo Costinha (18th minute own goal), Domingos Oliveira (53rd minute penalty)
 Sporting - Nourredine Naybet (42nd) Ahmed Ouattara (74th)
 Attendance: 30,000
 Aggregate score: 2-2
 Replay on neutral ground will be on September 20.

PORTUGUESE FIRST DIVISION
— August 26 —

Belenenses	1	Braga	1
Tirsense	0	Benfica	1

SPANISH SUPERCUP

King's Cup winners Deportivo Coruna beat league champions Real Madrid 3-0 in the first leg.
 Scorers: Deportivo Coruna - Donato (55th minute penalty), Francisco Gonzalez (60th), Bebeto (65th)
 Attendance: 20,000
 Cup holders Deportivo Coruna beat league title holders Real Madrid 2-1 in a Spanish Supercup second leg match:
 Scorers:

Real Madrid - Fernando Hierro (30th)
 Deportivo Coruna - Javier Manjarin (80th), Aitor Beguiristain (87th)
 Attendance: 25,000
 Deportivo won 5-1 on aggregate

YUGOSLAV LEAGUE
Division A

OFK Beograd	2	Napredak	2
Radnicki (N)	2	Proleter	0
Partizan	2	Becej	1
Buducnost	1	Zemun	2
(Vojvodina vs Red Star - Sunday)			

TABLE

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News FROM AROUND THE GL BE

Bribery allegations rock Germany

German chiefs are to launch an immediate investigation into allegations that former international goalkeeper Uli Stein was once offered a bribe to lose an important league match.

Stein, whose career has been packed with controversy, told the German magazine Sport Bild he was offered money to lose a first division match during the climax to the 1987 season when he was playing for Hamburg.

The comments were the first major bribery accusations to hit German soccer since 1971 when more than 50

players, two coaches and six club officials were punished for fixing games.

Within a few hours of the publication hitting the streets last week, the German soccer federation (DFB) announced it would call the 40-year-old Stein to a hearing about his comments.

"This is a serious allegation. We have to get it cleared up," DFB official Horst Hilpert said. "We're going to investigate it and call Stein to a hearing."

Stein, who now plays for second division Arminia Bielefeld,

alleged he was offered money by Kaiserslautern who needed to beat Hamburg to snatch a place in the UEFA Cup from Bayer Leverkusen.

The goalkeeper said he turned down the offer and Hamburg won the match 4-0.

"I'm not naming any names or figures but someone from Kaiserslautern talked to me before the game and tried to bribe me to lose the match. A team-mate was supposed to help me," Stein told the magazine.

Stein was not available to confirm his remarks.

Kaiserslautern made no immediate comment.

Stein has a reputation for speaking his mind.

The goalkeeper was sent home from the 1986 World Cup after he was alleged to have called coach Franz Beckenbauer lightweight.

Last year he was sacked by Eintracht Frankfurt after swearing at team-mates during training and damaging morale.

Here is Europe's Top Team for season 1994-95, as selected by a panel of Editors of the member publications of ESM (European Sports Magazines), of which WORLD SOCCER is the British associate.

ESM also comprises A Bola (Portugal), Don Balon (Spain), Kicker (Germany), Onze Mondial (France), Voetbal International (Holland), Sport (Switzerland), La Gazzetta dello Sport (Italy) and Foot (Belgium).

Each month in the coming season, ABSW will be publishing the new ESM Team of the Month.



Europe's Top Team

Vitor Baia
FC PORTO

Frank Rijkaard
AJAX AMSTERDAM

Matthias Sammer
BORUSSIA DORTMUND

Danny Blind
AJAX AMSTERDAM

Paulo Maldini
MILAN

Michael Laudrup
REAL MADRID

Gianfranco Zola
PARMA

Jari Litmanen
AJAX AMSTERDAM

Alan Shearer
BLACKBURN ROVERS

Ivan Zamorano
REAL MADRID

Jurgen Klinsmann
TOTTENHAM

FIFA world rankings

World champion Brazil maintained its lead at the top of the latest world rankings issued by FIFA last week.

Leading rankings (1994 ranking in brackets):

1.	Brazil (1)	68.42
2.	Norway (8)	59.40
3.	Spain (2)	58.36
4.	Germany (5)	58.31
5.	Argentina (10)	57.86
6.	Italy (4)	56.60
7.	Denmark (14)	56.35
8.	Russia (13)	55.45
9.	Portugal (20)	55.30
10.	Mexico (15)	54.99
11.	Switzerland (7)	54.47
12.	Bulgaria (16)	53.83
13.	Colombia (17)	53.59
14.	Romania (11)	53.33
15.	Sweden (3)	52.88
16.	Ireland (9)	51.58
17.	Netherlands (6)	51.18
18.	France (19)	51.16
19.	U.S. (23)	49.83
20.	Uruguay (37)	49.46
21.	Egypt (22)	49.41
22.	England (18)	48.63
23.	Scotland (32)	48.09
24.	Ghana (26)	47.98
25.	Tunisia (30)	47.68
26.	Zambia (21)	47.61
27.	Czech Republic (34)	47.01
28.	Poland (29)	46.08
29.	Belgium (24)	45.76
30.	Greece (28)	45.67
31.	Turkey (48)	45.53
32.	Ivory Coast (25)	45.52
33.	Japan (36)	44.60
34.	Nigeria (12)	43.32
35.	Morocco (33)	42.64
36.	Saudi Arabia (27)	42.54
37.	Finland (38)	41.78
38.	Cameroon (31)	41.62
39.	Chile (47)	40.66
40.	Slovakia (43)	40.52
41.	South Korea (35)	40.37
42.	Austria (49)	39.61
43.	Israel (42)	39.57
44.	Senegal (50)	38.89
45.	Zimbabwe (51)	38.40
46.	Iceland (39)	38.20
47.	Mali (52)	38.12
48.	Bolivia (44)	38.00
49.	Lithuania (59)	37.98
50.	Algeria (57)	37.33

Europe challenges FIFA over control of the game

UEFA president Lennart Johansson denied last weekend that he was picking a fight with world soccer body FIFA but pledged to take his radical reform plans direct to FIFA members if they are not endorsed at a crisis meeting next month.

The European soccer body on Wednesday published plans that would shift the balance of power in world soccer from FIFA to the six regional confederations.

The move was widely seen as bringing to a head a long-running battle between UEFA and Joao Havelange, the Brazilian who has headed FIFA since 1974.

Johansson's reform plans were included in two strategy documents, dubbed Vision One — dealing with the sport's structure — and Vision Two — dealing with its finances.

Under the proposals, FIFA would be stripped of much of its political power and be left chiefly as the organiser of intercontinental events such as the World Cup finals. Marketing revenues — which Johansson thinks could be increased at least four-fold — would be divided more

confederations," Johansson said.

"What we want is more democracy in world football," he said.

"We do not want a situation where the president can arbitrarily choose the composition of the various committees without a reference to any other member in the executive committee. The selections should be done by the executive committee."

He added: "If FIFA does not accept our proposals on Vision One and Two we will have no choice but to go directly to next year's FIFA Congress."

At last year's congress in the United States, critics said Havelange had ridden roughshod over the selection process and packed some of FIFA's most important committees with his own supporters.

Johansson's reform plans will be discussed at a meeting of FIFA's emergency committee in Zurich on September 8, and Johansson said he hoped they could be discussed on their merits.

Johansson received some backing for his plans when he



been criticised by Havelange, who told the Swede that he was questioning the "entire basis on which FIFA is founded — the unification of all national associations — in order to convert it into a group of confederations".

The strength of Johansson's reform plans lies as much, however, in his call for a more professional marketing of the World Cup finals to ensure the kind of multi-billion dollar revenues achieved by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

The IOC recently sold the U.S. television rights to the 1998 Winter Games and 2000 Summer Games for \$A1.62 billion.

FIFA, by contrast, received less than \$A135.23 million in worldwide rights fees for last year's ultra-successful World Cup finals in the United States. Its total pot, including television, sponsorship and ticket sales was around \$A243 million — a figure that Johansson said should increase to at least \$A1,080 million.



Joao Havelange:
Battle ahead.

equally among the soccer world.

At a news conference in Geneva ahead of Friday's first-round draw for the three UEFA club competitions, Johansson said he was not out to destroy FIFA — but nevertheless accused Havelange of being undemocratic in his leadership of the organisation.

"We are not looking for any fight with FIFA. If we do, we will be fighting against ourselves because FIFA is the

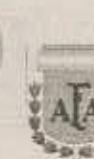


Lennart Johansson:
Strategy for UEFA's success.



SOUTH AMERICA

— COMPILED BY MARIO ETCHEART —



Uruguay to play Israel after Brazil rejection

The national team of Uruguay, winner of the 1995 Copa America, and Israel, will play a friendly international, next September the 19th, in Jerusalem.

□ □ □

The South American runners-up, Brazil invited the Uruguayans to play another friendly in September, but the fee asked by Uruguay, U\$200,000, surprised the world champions and that game may not be possible.

□ □ □

Hector Nunez, the coach who guided Uruguay will continue at the helm of the South American champions after reaching an agreement with the Uruguayan Football Association.

□ □ □

Nunez will be in charge of the team who will defend the Copa America's title in Bolivia, in 1997, and will continue his work during the qualifying rounds for the 1998 World Cup.

□ □ □

The Uruguayan U/23 team will face Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay in group B of the South American qualifying rounds for the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta.

□ □ □

Colombia will replace Croatia to face England in a friendly international to be played at Wembley on

□ □ □



Leo Rodriguez: The former Argentine international has signed for Chilean club Universidad de Chile.

September 6.

□ □ □

Miguel Mejia Baron, the former coach of the Mexican national team will be in charge of El Salvador.

□ □ □

Baron, who was sacked after Mexico's poor showing in the last Copa America will be at the helm of the

Salvadorean side for the next four years.

□ □ □

Lanus is the only leader of the Argentine soccer league, first phase after its 2-1 win over Independiente.

□ □ □

Meanwhile, Boca Juniors, who is anxiously waiting for the return of Diego Maradona, at the end of September, defeated Platense 1-0 with a goal scored by former Cameroon international Alphonse Tchami.

□ □ □

Boca was without its other big signing, Claudio Caniggia, who was injured two weeks ago.

□ □ □

River Plate running second in the competition drew 1-1 with 1994 Libertadores Cup champions Velez Sarsfield.

□ □ □

In Uruguay, current champions Penarol beat Danubio, 2-1 and lead the competition with seven points.

□ □ □

RESULTS & TABLES

ARGENTINA

Platense 0, Boca 1
Rosario Central 1, Banfield 1
Huracan 1, Gimnasia La Plata 1
Racing 1, Belgrano 0
River 1, Velez 1
Ferro 1, Newell's 2
Lanus 2, Independiente 1
Gimnasia Jujuy 1, Colon 0
STANDINGS

Lanus, River, Velez 7; Boca, Racing 6; Newell's 5; Gimnasia Jujuy 4; San Lorenzo, Gimnasia La Plata 3; Independiente, Huracan, Ferro, Banfield, Rosario Central 2; Estudiantes, Espanol, Argentinos Jrs, Platense, Belgrano 1; Colon 0.

BRAZIL

Palmeiras 3, Guarani 0
Vitoria 2, Botafogo 2
Santos 1, Goias 1
Fluminense 1, Criciuma 0
Sport 0, Portuguesa 0
Cruzeiro 0, Juventude 0
Parana Club 2, Gremio 0
Bragantino 0 Palmeiras 2
Botafogo 3 Paysandu 1
Juventude 1 Parana 2
Corinthians vs. Bragantino, p.pd.

URUGUAY

Penarol 2, Danubio 1
Nacional 1, Defensor 0

PROGRESO

Progreso 2, Sud America 0
Central 2, Cerro 2
Rampla 1, Liverpool 1
Postergado: Wanderers-
Basanez Free: River
STANDINGS

Penarol 7 puntos; Progreso 6;

Nacional, Wanderers 4; Central,

Defensor 3; Basanez, Cerro,

Danubio, Liverpool, Rampla,

River, Sud America 2.

QUINTIO

Quintio 1, Tolima 1
Caldas 3, Medellin 0
Magdalena 1, Cali 1
Bucaramanga 0, Millonarios 2
America 5, Junior 1
Nacional 2, Pereira 2
Santa Fe 1, Envigado 1
Huila 3, Cortuluá 1

STANDINGS

Group A: Caldas, Millonarios 3;
Magdalena, Cali, Quindio, Tolima 1; Bucaramanga, Medellin 0.
Group B: America, Huila 3;
Nacional, Pereira, Santa Fe, Envigado 1; Cortua, Junior 0.

CHILE

U. Catolica 1, U. Espanola 0
Colo Colo 3, Everton 1
Osorno 2, Cobreloa 0
Temuco 1, U. de Chile 0
La Serena 0, Concepcion 0
O'Higgins 3, Palestino 0

HUACHIPATO

Huachipato 0, Coquimbo 0
Atacama 2, Antofagasta 1

STANDINGS

U. Catolica, Colo Colo 31; Cobreloa 28; U. de Chile 27; O'Higgins 23; Osorno 22; Temuco, Atacama 21; Coquimbo 20; U. Espanola, Concepcion 19; Palestino 17; La Serena 14; Antofagasta, Huachipato 13; Everton 9.

PARAGUAY

San Lorenzo 1, Luqueno 1
Presidente Hayes 1, Sport Colombia 1
Humaita 0, Olimpia 1
Colegiales 1, Sol de America 1
Nacional 0, Guarani 0
Cerro Porteno 1, Cerro Cora 0
Free: Libertad
STANDINGS

Cerro Porteno 20; Olimpia 18;
Nacional 14; Luqueno 13; Cerro Cora, Humaita 11; Libertad, Sport Colombia, San Lorenzo 9; Colegiales, Hayes 7; Sol de America, Guarani 6.

PERU

Aurich Canana 2, Municipal 2
Union Minas 0, Cristal 0
Torino 1, San Agustin 2
Leon 0, Sport Boys 2
Ciclista Lima 1, Cienciano 0
Alianza Lima 2, Sipesa 1
Universitario 1, Melgar 0

UNION HUARAL

Union Huaral 2,
Alianza Atletico 1

STANDINGS

Alianza Lima 49; Cristal, Universitario 40; Cienciano 36; Sipesa 35; Melgar, Municipal 31; Sport Boys 27; Ciclista Lima 25; San Agustin 23; Aurich Canana 18; Union Huaral 17; Alianza Atletico, Minas 16; Leon 12; Torino 4.

BOLIVIA

Wilsterman 6, Blooming 3
Bolivar 1, Stormers 0
Ciclon 2, Independiente
Petroliero 2
San Jose 2, Oriente Petroliero 0
Guabira 0, Real Santa Cruz 0
The Strongest-Destroyers
(Wednesday)
STANDINGS

Cerro Porteno 20; Olimpia 18;
Nacional 14; Luqueno 13; Cerro Cora, Humaita 11; Libertad, Sport Colombia, San Lorenzo 9; Colegiales, Hayes 7; Sol de America, Guarani 6.

GUATEMALA

Cup tournament, semi-finals:
Municipal 1, Comunicaciones 0
Xelaju 1, Aurora 0
Alianza Lima 2, Sipesa 1
Universitario 1, Melgar 0

Osvaldo Canobbio.

□ □ □

Former Argentine international midfielder, Leonardo Rodriguez will further his soccer career in Chile.

□ □ □

The former Atalanta of Italy star signed a one-year contract with Chilean champion Universidad de Chile.

□ □ □

Some South American nations showed big improvements in the last FIFA ranking.

□ □ □

Brazil continue as leader with 68.42 points while Argentina went from 10th to 5th place with 57.86 points.

□ □ □

Colombia also improved four places going from 17th to 13th with 53.59.

□ □ □

While Copa America champions, Uruguay made a great jump from 37th to 20th place with 49.46.

LIBERTADORES CUP FINAL

Gremio of Brazil took an important lead in the final of the South America's Libertadores Cup, the major championship at club level in the continent, with a 3-1 home win over Atletico Nacional of Colombia in the first leg.

The match was played at Porto Alegre's Olympic stadium in front of a crowd of 50,000.

The Brazilians, who won the tournament in 1983 and were runners-up in 1984, took advantage of several defensive blunders and went three goals up in the space of one hour but, in a very hard fought game, the visitors resurrected their hopes in the last 25 minutes pulling back a goal through Juan Pablo Angel in the 72nd minute.

Colombian defender Victor Marulanda opened the score for the Brazilians with an own goal in the 36th minute and striker Jardel added the second for Gremio in the 36th. Fellow striker Paulo Nunes netted the third for the eventual winner in the 56th.

The final result provided Gremio with the chance of winning the second Libertadores Cup in 12 years, although the lead is useful, it doesn't mind that such goal difference is an impregnable one.

Tomorrow's match, at Medellin, will be a very difficult task for the Brazilians, specially in front of a fanatical crowd who will support Rene Higuita's team from the start to the end.

The Colombians will need to win by a margin of three goals to repeat the title won in 1989 against Olimpia of Paraguay.

The winner of the Libertadores Cup will meet European champions Ajax of Holland in the final of the Toyota Cup, next December in Tokyo.

GREMIO: Danlei, Arce, Rivarola, Adilson, Roger, Dinho, Goiano, Arilson (Alexandre), Carlos Miguel, Paulo Nunes (Nildo), Jardel.

Coach: Luiz Felipe.

ATLETICO NACIONAL: Higuita, Santa, Marulanda, Foronda, Mosquera, Serna, Gutierrez, Pavon (Matamba), Alexis Garcia, Angel, Arango.

Coach: Juan Jose Pelaez.

FINAL - 1ST LEG

Gremio of Brazil beat Atletico Nacional of Colombia 3-1 (halftime 2-0) in the first leg of the South American Libertadores Cup final last Wednesday.

Scorers: Gremio - Victor Marulanda, own goal (36th minute), Jardel (43rd), Paulo Nunes (56th)

Atletico Nacional - Juan Pablo Angel (72nd)

Attendance: 50,000

Second leg to be played August 30.

An Interview With...

PETER BEARDSLEY

34 and better than ever

TOP defenders loathe the sight of him and just about every neutral fan in the country would love to have him in their team, but just how long can Peter Beardsley, the Peter Pan of football, go on for? "I honestly believe the best is yet to come," admits the Newcastle skipper. "I don't think I have ever been so excited at the start of pre-season training. The club have made some fantastic signings and I believe this is the best chance we have of winning the title. I desperately want to get my hands on the Premiership trophy."

Beardsley continues to confound the critics and at 34 has just signed a new three-year contract that effectively ties him to Newcastle United for the rest of his career. Newcastle manager Kevin Keegan reckons Beardsley is the most inspirational player he has ever seen.

"I get a lot of stick from the lads because every time he scores I think it's his best goal," admits Keegan.

"The lads at the club really rib me about it!"

But can Beardsley realistically play beyond 37? "As far as I'm concerned he will play in my team as long as I am manager," says Keegan. "He's so dedicated that there are times I have to tell him to slow down. But as a role model, you can't beat him! I tell all the young lads to go and watch Beardsley train because I could sit for an hour and tell them things, but he shows them how to be a professional footballer in everything he does."

But if you're inclined to believe the admiration is all one-way traffic, forget it. Beardsley has played under some of the top managers in the game, including Kenny Dalglish, Ron Atkinson, Graham Taylor, Terry Venables and Howard Kendall, but he rates Keegan as the best of the bunch.

"He's a friend, an agent and a manager," says Peter. "I ask his advice on all sorts of things. To be honest I don't have an agent and with Kevin Keegan I don't need one. In many respects he's been like a dad to me."

(**Q**) WHO ARE YOUR MAIN RIVALS FOR THE TITLE?

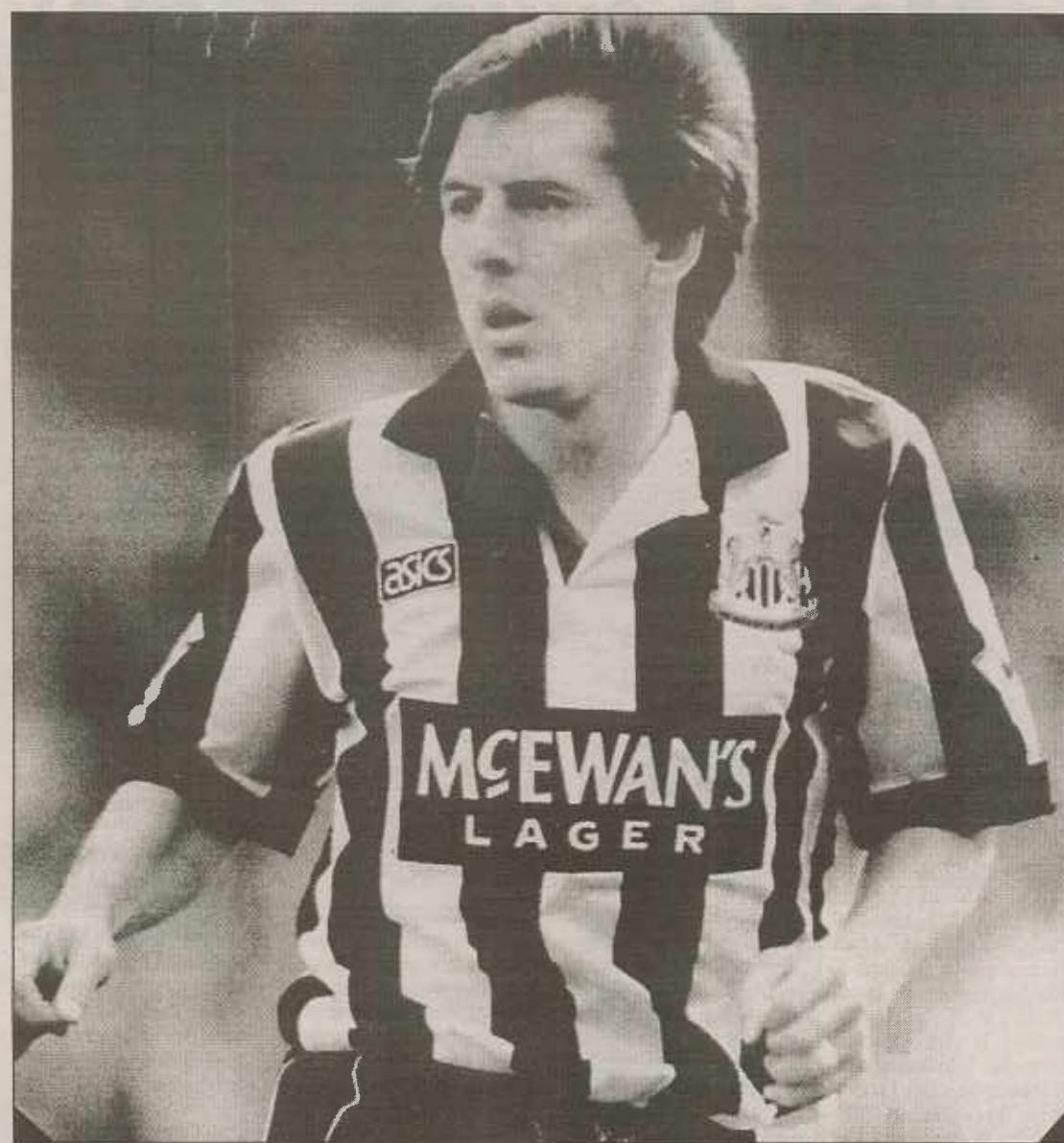
"I don't think you can look beyond last season's top two. I guess Alex Ferguson is under a bit of pressure over the sales he has made, but people forget that he has a very big squad which includes some of the most exciting young players in the country."

Liverpool will fancy themselves and rightfully so after signing Stan Collymore, and Arsenal...well, look at Dennis Bergkamp and David Platt and you can draw your own conclusions. It's wide open and we are being strongly fancied. I would be shocked if we didn't end up with something this season."

(**Q**) WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU

CAN NEWCASTLE REALLY TAKE THE TITLE?

"Just look at the signings we've made, three players at \$24 million, it's got the whole city buzzing. A few years ago we could never afford to spend that sort of money but the manager has shown that we have ambition



Peter Beardsley believes his best is yet to come.

HANG YOUR BOOTS UP?

I'd certainly like to stay in the game but I'm not too sure about being a manager, perhaps the pressure is too intense for me.

I'd like to go into coaching because I enjoy that aspect of the game. But most all I'd want it to be with this club."

IS KEEGAN THE BEST MANAGER YOU'VE WORKED WITH?

"I'm biased because he likes me, but I'd say he's the best without a shadow of a doubt."

He hasn't experienced the type of success he wants at the club, but he will. He'll get



Celebration: Peter Beardsley with John Barnes during Peter's Liverpool days.

it right and in time he will prove what a great manager he is. He is desperate to win trophies, he won't be happy until he has one."

(**Q**) ARE YOU STILL ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT PRE-SEASON TRAINING?

"It sounds stupid but because I don't have much left of it, say three or four years, I'm more enthusiastic now than I ever was. I know it's not going to last much longer so I try to enjoy it while I can. I hope to retain some role which involves training by going into coaching."

(**Q**) FOREIGN PLAYERS LOVE THE PREMIERSHIP, DON'T THEY?

"It's incredible. At Newcastle we have signed David Ginola, while the foreign players like Marc Hottiger, Philippe Albert and Pavel Srnicek have been brilliant for us. Jurgen Klinsmann was a breath of fresh air last season and what he did for Tottenham in that one year was nothing short of incredible."

He came over here with a smile on his face and in a year was a cult hero on the terraces. It's a real shame he left, but with the likes of Bergkamp and Gullit coming to England hopefully this season will be better than ever."

(**Q**) DO YOU REGRET THAT YOU DIDN'T PLAY IN EUROPE?

"I had the chance to play in Marseille, but it never really appealed to me. I'd have found it hard to do what Gary Lineker or David Platt did. I would have been more like Rushy or Mark Hughes. To be fair, if you are going to go abroad you must make the effort. Gary Lineker and David Platt have shown that they were prepared to do that, but I've no regrets. If the chance came along tomorrow I would still turn it down."

(**Q**) DO THE NEWCASTLE PLAYERS LIKE A LAUGH?

"Oh, definitely. We all like a laugh...the new lads have been slaughtered! Look at me, I'm an ordinary lad, then look at Warren Barton, Les Ferdinand and David Ginola. To be quite honest they look like superstars and you can't help but take the mickey out of them. Last week a few of us went on 'The Big Breakfast' and Les claimed he would rather die than put on a chicken outfit — but 30 minutes later he had the full gear on doing the best impression of a chicken I have ever seen!"

The pleasing thing from my point of view is that he's prepared to come up here and be a part of this. It's a long way for a lad who has played nearly all his football in London. To make the break at 29 and come up here shows that he thinks a lot of the team and Kevin Keegan. Hopefully the lads can repay Les's faith in the team and help him get what he wants to achieve."

(**Q**) ARE YOU SHOCKED BY ALL THE TRANSFER ACTIVITY?

"Absolutely. I think it's amazing how much money has been spent this summer. If you want to be successful you have to spend plenty of money but I didn't know so many clubs had that money to spend."

It looks like a lot of them have gone into debt to get it right on the field, hoping



success will generate the money to repay the debt. Look at Newcastle, it will be a long time before they get their money back. The ground is already sold out but I think they realise here that to provide exciting times ahead and to compete with the big boys they have to pay the money."

(**Q**) BUT IS IT GOOD FOR THE GAME?

"I think so, but then it's easy for me to say because I'm in a Premiership team and I get paid very well. It's harder for the smaller clubs. But our gaffer thinks you need the smaller clubs to provide the young players that are coming through. He has worked hard on the youth development at this club and he realises the smaller clubs are a major part of the future for the bigger clubs."

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(**Q**) DO THE NEWCASTLE PLAYERS LIKE A LAUGH?

"Oh, definitely. We all like a laugh...the new lads have been slaughtered! Look at me, I'm an ordinary lad, then look at Warren Barton, Les Ferdinand and David Ginola. To be quite honest they look like superstars and you can't help but take the mickey out of them. Last week a few of us went on 'The Big Breakfast' and Les claimed he would rather die than put on a chicken outfit — but 30 minutes later he had the full gear on doing the best impression of a chicken I have ever seen!"

He won't get away with that, the lads are going to slaughter him. But surprisingly David Ginola, who doesn't exactly speak good English has started to join in. I mean, here's a French guy taking the mickey out of Geordies!?"

UK SOCCER SUPPORTERS DOWNUNDER



**QUICK
ONE-TWO**

WITH
**MICKY
BROCK**
of the UK
Soccer
Supporters
Downunder

PO Box 56, KINGSWAY WEST, NSW 2208
TEL & FAX: (02) 554-3888

Over the past few weeks our sister organisation (AFSA) has been holding talks with the ASFA on ways to improve the profile etc of the game in Australia. When speaking with George Negus last Friday past, he had this to say: "The suggestions made by AFSA will be raised at the next board meeting and official confirmation of the documents received will be forthcoming". George went on with this statement:

"I feel it absolutely vital for Australian Soccer that the supporters through existing groups be involved with the game at every possible opportunity. To this end I will be bringing this matter forward to the board as a matter of some urgency and will strongly suggest that there be "Supporters Representatives" involved in all aspects of the decision making wherever possible

This is NOT to say that we at AFSA/UKSSD will be the only group involved with this new direction and I pointed out that we would dearly love there to be Italian, Greek etc representatives also and this was loudly echoed by Mr Negus. As we have always maintained, this wonderful game of ours knows no language, no colour, no

sectarianism and it's about time we all pulled together for a change. This is where we live and this is our closest contact with the game. It may not be the Premier League or Serie A but it is the game we all love and follow with a passion so let's give it our best shot. It may not work of course but without giving it a fair go, we'll never know.

To this end I would urge you all to write in and give us your opinions, ideas on what YOU want to see, which direction you want the game to go in etc. The UKSSD/AFSA will support this initiative to the hilt because we now have the opportunity to speak directly to the governing body and have the chance to be involved in the decision making and with this in mind I would ask you all one thing: If not for yourself, DO IT FOR THE GAME!

MATCH FIXING IS RIFE! Or so an FA Mole has reported exclusively to us. Asian businessman Dr G Raham K Elly has revealed that match fixing is a worldwide problem. In a brief statement from his tropical island hideaway he said: "Match fixing takes place in every country of the world. The Governing bodies pretend a computer fixes the games at random but all over Europe — especially England — they often alter matches to make money from TV and satellite companies." He gave Arsenal vs

Here are some further examples of the claims made by Dr G Raham K Elly which he says will not be the end of the story but are changes made to generate extra cash:

FROM	FIXTURE	NEW DATE
Sat 9th Sept	Man City v Arsenal	Sun 10th Sept
Sat 9th Sept	West Ham v Chelsea	Mon 11th Sept
Tue 22nd Aug	M/Boro v Soton	Tue 12th Sept
Sat 16th Sept	Notts Forest v Everton	Sun 17th Sept
Sat 23rd Sept	Newcastle v Chelsea	Sun 24th Sept
Sat 23rd Sept	QPR v Spurs	Mon 25th Sept
Sat 30th Oct	Everton v Newcastle	Sun 1st Oct
Sat 30th Oct	Man Utd v Liverpool	Sun 1st Oct
Sat 30th Oct	Soton v West Ham	Mon 2nd Oct
Sat 14th Oct	Sheff Wed v M/Boro	Sun 15th Oct
Sat 14th Oct	Wimbledon v West Ham	Mon 16th Oct
Sat 21st Oct	Soton v Liverpool	Sun 22nd Oct
Sat 28th Oct	Spurs v Newcastle	Sun 28th Oct
Sat 28th Oct	Bolton v Arsenal	Mon 30th Oct
Sat 4th Nov	Everton v Blacktown	Sun 5th Nov
Sat 18th Nov	QPR v Coventry	Sun 19th Nov
Wed 22nd Nov	Soton v Aston Villa	Mon 20th Nov
Sat 25th Nov	Arsenal v Blackburn	Sun 28th Nov
Sat 2nd Dec	Wimbledon v Newcastle	Sun 3rd Dec
Sat 2nd Dec	Sheff Wed v Coventry	Mon 4th Dec
Sat 9th Dec	Notts Forest v Aston Villa	Sun 10th Dec
Sat 16th Dec	Liverpool v Man Utd	Sun 17th Dec
Sat 23rd Dec	Leeds Utd v Man Utd	Sun 24th Dec
Tue 26th Dec	Bolton v Leeds Utd	Wed 27th Dec
Mon 1st Jan	Newcastle v Arsenal	Tue 2nd Jan
Mon 1st Jan	QPR v Chelsea	Tue 2nd Jan

coverage of Austria v Republic of Ireland on the 7th. This game could be shown "live" as the proposed match between England and Croatia has been postponed although rumour has it that England will now play Colombia on this date). Coverage of the European Championships at the end of the season would appear to have been picked up by the company as well.

However, before you all rush out to sign up, wait a while is the best advice I can give you all at this stage? Further news at a later date.

Recently both "Mrs Jones boy" and I were lucky enough to bump into the famous old Everton player Mick Lyons — now coach of the Canberra Cosmos in the 1995/96 NSL season if it ever gets underway? — and he told us the following story:

"I bought my first car for the princely sum of 60 quid off of Joe Royle, whom I eventually played with at Everton but at the time I was still a reserve player. The first day I had it I took it out for a drive of course and was approaching some traffic lights as they turned to red.

Deciding that "stopping" was probably the best course of action to take I applied pressure to the break pedal. Unfortunately I didn't press hard enough and kept going. I pressed a little harder as the traffic lights were now quite close and still I kept going. After slamming my foot down to the floor, I still went

Middlesborough as an example. This match was set for August 19th but didn't in fact start until the 20th. This example was used by Dr Elly as proof of his outburst and he went on to say: "Much, much more of this will take place throughout the year and they have even fixed games in November and December already."

We attempted to ask the FA about this but got no further than being put on hold — to the tune of World Cup Willie — and decided to

hang up after two and a half hours. It appears that not only is match fixing rife in the UK but the FA actively take part in it and take their cut as well.

It appears that the boys from Galaxy Pay TV are getting very serious about their footie coverage. In coming weeks you will be able to see Scottish Premier League fixtures with just a five days delay, the FA Cup will have Rounds 1 and 2 as delayed

telecasts and a mix of both delayed and live games from the third round onwards. Italian football will have same day coverage from October 2nd and probably "live screening" after this time.

Add to this a one hour highlight package from the Bundesliga, the Futbal Mundial show, a Haitian package and selected games from the European Championship (Portugal v Nth Ireland LIVE 4th September, same day

65/66, 69/70, 73/74 and 83/84. The domestic "Cup Double" was managed in 1973/74 (almost 20 years before Arsenal actually managed to do it) and the League Cup in its varieties were won in: 1973/74, 85/86 and 86/87.

Every European trophy was won during this time and Roy captained England too but the blackest day came in season 80/81 when Rovers were relegated to Division Two.

However, they were promoted the following year as Champions when setting a new league record when remaining unbeaten in 34 games. In the 1991/92 season Roy set the new league goalscoring record when hitting his 436th league goal.

He also played with some great players such as the time Rovers signed Martin Kemp and Steve Norman from Spandau Ballet (the pop group) and Emlyn Hughes and Bob Wilson and the previous season they appointed the legendary Test cricketer Geoffrey Boycott as the Chairman of the club. From baggy shorts to sponsorship on shirts, it's all here in probably the greatest football story ever written.

FANZINE REVIEWS

PYRAMID FOOTBALL

(A Magazine for non-league fans by non-league fans)

Absolutely bloody marvellous! Not another superlative is needed when taking about this particular magazine in all honesty. Comes in the A5 size and carries "snippets" on a very wide selection of the non-league set up.

Test is excellent and so is the photographic reproduction. Mind you, with two photographs on every other page, what more would you expect. PYRAMID FOOTBALL shows non-league football in all its glory and is well written, humorous yet poignant at the same time. It covers the fun and trials of the clubs concerned and is written with good old fashioned passion to the fore. Each month covers over 20 different leagues and surprisingly enough it has just entered its 12th year of production. The experience shows.

Also included are: Stunning photographs of non-league grounds.

Behind the scenes news from all

the leagues.
Readers letters.
Statistical articles and club histories.

Features on non-league programme collection and very much more.

PF is only available through subscription these days and can be obtained from: Pyramid Football Magazine, PO Box 553, London N2-8LJ. Price including airmail postage is just 9.20stg for three magnificent issues.

Anyone joining after the season starts will be sent the relevant back issues. I am a non-league fan as you know but must say that this magazine is superb. No hesitation in offering the big 10/10 to it. You will not be disappointed I assure you!

ROY OF THE ROVERS

The Playing Years

How many of us grew up with Roy Race of Melchester Rovers in younger days and eagerly awaited

each week's episode and then discussed it in the playground with our mates? My guess would be most of you reading this.

The good news is that the above has been made into a book and very good it is too.

It covers the near 40 years that Roy Race played for the team, follows his international career and the triumphs and tragedies from league championships to being shot, bombed etc.

Roy Race made his debut into football legend on the 11th September 1954 and finally wound up on 20th March 1993. During this period Roy became the most prolific goalscorer of all time, won the most medals, cups etc and survived countless worries along the way.

He played on with injuries no ordinary player would have coped with but as we all know, his reputation and name has become synonymous with football legend.

How many times have you heard the professionals say: "...real Roy of the Rovers stuff." Not a bad remark seeing as Roy is a cartoon character after all.

His rise to footballing prowess is a remarkable story and one

based on actual events with some fantasy thrown in too.

Melchester Rovers is thought to be based on Arsenal Football Club and this is reflected in their history when the side dominated the 30s. Since that time and the first appearance (in the boys comic "Tiger") of Roy and his sidekick "Blackie" Gray, the club didn't do too much until the 50s, another reasonable period in the Gunners history.

Obviously it's impossible to reproduce every strip of the story in the book but it does reproduce the actual strips that were used in the comic days, right down to the actual colours.

It's a real trip down memory lane although Roy had been playing for a number of years before I got into it. To combat any feeling of "missing parts", the author has included a series of news bulletins from the original strip and any parts that are missing are due to not being reported in the original story which includes Roy having to give up playing after crashing his helicopter and finding upon wakening from his coma that his trusty left foot had been amputated.

Shock, horror but he eventually goes off to manage an Italian club and his son "Rocky" is left to continue the "Race phenomenon" at Rovers.

The book itself is a hardback A4 sized publication of over 200 pages and is priced at RRP \$34.95. It should be available at all good leading book stores which I would certainly recommend you look at.

For the supporters of today who've never heard of "Roy of the Rovers", take a look and see what it's all about because quite apart from the one previously mentioned phrase that found its way into footie folklore, try this one out for size too: after being appointed captain of the club, a reporter asked for his views and Roy replied: "I'm chuffed, I feel like Sputnik, over the moon!" Another phrase from another story in the life of ROY OF THE ROVERS. Brilliant stuff!

During his playing days he won League Championships in 1957/58, 1962/63, 67/68, 71/72, 76/77, 79/80, 87/88 and 91/92. The "Double" was achieved in 1971/72 (the season after Arsenal had done it in real life) but other FA Cup wins include: 1958/59, 60/61,

UK SOCCER SUPPORTERS DOWN UNDER



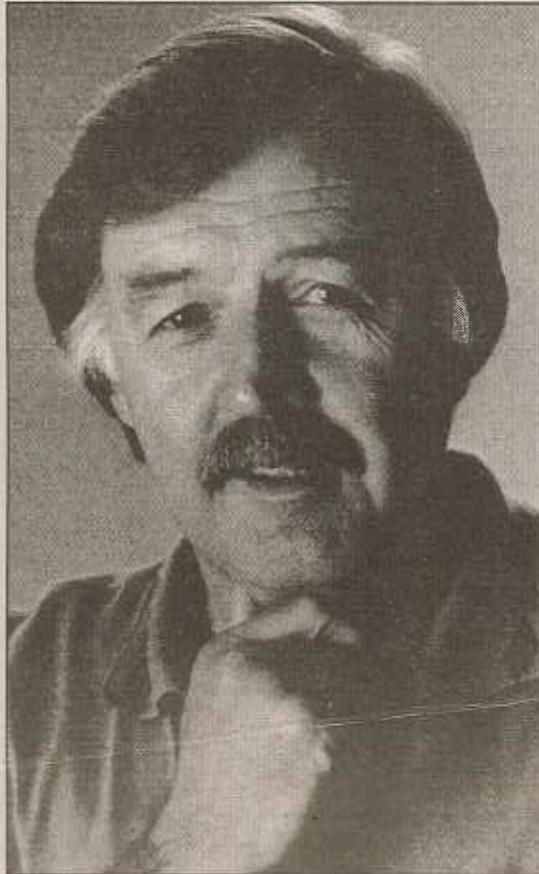
Mick Lyons and George Negus

forward and eventually had to steer the car into the side of the road to halt it once and for all.

The bugger had no brakes! I went up to Joe at the training ground and said to him: "Why didn't you tell me that car had no brakes?" to which he replied: "If I'd known you wanted a car with brakes I'd have charged you 80 quid!"

Obviously this is a great story but clever investigation has revealed this answer when Mr Royal was posed with the question: DEAR MICKY, I CAN CONFIRM. THIS STORY! JOE. It's not that I doubted Mick but stories of buying cars from your team-mates often have this ring to them and besides, I thought it might be better if I got Joe's side of events. Many thanks to Mick and Joe for their time and that famous "scouse humour" lives on. Cheers lads.

Watch out for a TV commercial in the next couple of weeks from the NZI company. It concerns an Everton supporting barber but look out for the background scenes? The first person to correctly pinpoint a couple of our GIANT CHARITY AUCTION & RAFFLE items (see the list enclosed with



George Negus: Want Aussie soccer supporters to be extensively involved in the running of the game.

items up for grabs by September 29th 1995 — date of the event — than we can mention beforehand because "stuff" is coming in

all the time.

There will be items that even I don't know about that have been organised by "scouse" Bob and Micky

Oldest club yearns success

Notts County were formed in 1862 as a gentleman's sporting club. They are the oldest football club in the country. They first played football at Park Hollow before moving to various grounds, including Trent Bridge, until finally moving to Meadow Lane in 1910.

In 1885/86's first round FA Cup clash County defeated Rotherham 15-0. County made the fifth round that year. In 1889 the club were founder members of the Football League.

They finished second last in that first season. In 1890/91 Notts County finished third in Division One. That season also saw them lose to Blackburn Rovers in the FA Cup final.

On the 10.12.1891 Harry Curshaw scored nine goals for County in an FA Cup clash with Wednesday Strollers. In 1893 County were relegated out of Division One for the first time.

The following season County defeated Burnley,

YOUR FAVOURITE CLUB
By Stuart Jones
Notts County

Burton, Nottingham Forest, and Blackburn Rovers to set up a final against Bolton in the FA Cup. 32,000 people saw a perfect display by Notts County and the final score was 4-1 to County. Logan scoring a hat-trick. County appeared in the promotion test matches in 1894 and 1895 but were not promoted.

In 1897 they won Division Two and the test matches and so were finally promoted.

Season 1897/98 saw a remarkable finish as five

teams ended up equal last on 24 points, including Notts County.

County survived due to a better goal difference than three of the other sides. They had played four games in the last six days of the season, three away from home, and won three of them.

In 1900/01 County equalled their highest ever finish of third in Division One.

County came last in 1905 but as the league expanded the following season they remained in Division One. In

1907 and 1908 they avoided relegation by a place, but were finally relegated after coming last in 1913. Notts County won Division Two at the first attempt.

The army took over Meadow Lane for WWI. In 1919/20 Notts County were again relegated. 1920 saw County play their first FA Cup game at Meadow Lane, 10 years after they had moved into the ground.

A combination of bad draws and WWI had seen this situation occur. Notts won Division Two in 1923 and lasted in Division One until coming last in 1926.

The following season also saw a fair share of defeats for County, one a 1-9 loss to Portsmouth. Incredibly this has been the score against County on three occasions, for Blackburn (1889) and Aston Villa (1930) have also won 9-1.

In 1930 Notts County came last and entered Division Three South. They won the division on the first attempt, Tom Keetley scoring 41 goals for the club.

"West Ham" but one thing I will mention here is it's a charity event. I am not too proud to go "cap in hand" to anyone and so decided to ask the 20 rugby league clubs for contributions if they wished to make one.

Although a couple sent back rather nice letters, only the Brisbane Bronco's actually sent an item to us for the night. We have a fully autographed Bronco's rugby league ball for sale on the night. I would like to publicly state my sincere thanks to people at the club for their help. Much appreciated.

The "Venue" is still to be decided upon but even if you don't intend buying anything, there is the raffle and games to join in with and probably a "stall or two" to have a look at plus some giveaways too. 0055 26612 for more information or the PO BOX as usual. We will have a very special item as a door prize which will be an autographed copy of Lennie Henry's video which was sent by the lovely Maggie (Lennie's publicist).

Unfortunately, due to his very full schedule, we could not meet up with the man and find out where his footballing roots lie back in England but many thanks to all concerned at Hocking, Vigo and Gerrard for their

all the time.

There will be items that even I don't know about that have been organised by "scouse" Bob and Micky

help too.

Last mention on this subject for now, 50% of ALL proceeds on the night will automatically go to the "Childrens Care Flight" organisation which we feel is a very worthwhile cause. Hopefully you will too and support the event by attending.

Don't forget that we can now supply official England Euro '96 T-shirts for \$36.95 (cheaper for AFSA members). Please make all cheques payable to UKSSD and remember this is only whilst stocks last. A full refund will be given to the ones unlucky enough to not get in quick enough.

Sizes are M, L & XL and come in either White or Black and our thanks to Mark back in the UK as ever. Mark also supplies T-shirts for many clubs and a host of other items too so join up with AFSA and save on "over the top" prices.

Unfortunately, due to his very full schedule, we could not meet up with the man and find out where his footballing roots lie back in England but many thanks to all concerned at Hocking, Vigo and Gerrard for their

all the time.

There will be items that even I don't know about that have been organised by "scouse" Bob and Micky

CLUB DIARY

VICTORIA: "True Blues" (Glasgow Rangers) will meet at the Waverley City Soccer Club on September 8th 1995. For more information please call Alan Roberts on (03) 763 6653.

UK CUP: Any club wishing to enter this competition can contact Peter Hart on (03) 9684 1797 or Norm Wilcockson on (03) 801 2312, Mobile 018 036 346. Held every year at the Waverley City Soccer club and sponsored by Britprint and the Bayswater Indoor Soccer, the annual event is aimed at fun and games. This year will see extra amusements for the kiddies and the draw for the opening matches takes place on Friday 13th September in the clubhouse.

Any supporters clubs in the Melbourne district should get along and join in the fun as some of the proceeds go to charity also.

QUEENSLAND: A football "day out" will be held at the Queens Park, Townsville, North Ward on Sunday 10th September 1995 from 11am onwards. For more details of the fun and games please contact Juanita St John on 077 892 580.

ANY official supporters club can advertise their events in here but a signed letter/fax must be sent in to do this. This is a FREE SERVICE brought to you by the ABSW and UKSSD and includes mention on our 0055 26612 information line.

LEAGUE HONOURS

NICKNAME:	Magpies
HONOURS:	Division Two: 1896/97, 1913/14, 1922/23
	Division Three South: 1930/31, 1949/50
	Division Four: 1970/71
	FA Cup: 1893/94
GROUND:	Meadow Lane, Nottingham, NG2 3HJ.

fifth round of the League Cup, but their league form was not as good and they finished last.

During WWII the ground was bombed quite severely. In 1946/47 Meadow Lane was flooded, prisoners of war helping to fix the ground.

On the 15.1.1949 Notts County defeated Newport County 11-1.

The following season they

took out Division Three South by seven points. In 1955 47,310 people came to Meadow Lane to watch Notts County play York City in an FA Cup sixth round clash. York upset County, winning 1-0.

In 1958 County were relegated into the new Division Three, and the following season were

relegated again.

In 1930 Notts County came last and entered Division Three South. They won the division on the first attempt, Tom Keetley scoring 41 goals for the club.

In 1930 Notts County

came last and entered

Division Three South. They

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In 1930 Notts County

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scoring 41 goals for the club.

2-0 to be promoted back into Division Two.

The following season they won the Division Two play-off final 3-1 over Brighton HA. They also made the quarter-finals of the FA Cup in 1990/91.

In Division One in 1991/92 County struggled and they finished second last and so were relegated.

They remained in Division Two until 1981. During this time they made the quarter-finals of the League Cup again, in 1975/76. In 1981 County finished 13 points behind West Ham, yet still came second and so won promotion back to Division One.

In 1984 County were

relegated, and their first year

back to Division Two saw

them relegated once again.

The club missed promotion

in 1988 by a point but in

1990 came third and won the

play-off final over Tramore

It is hoped this season the club as a whole can work its way back to the first division.

For now it is a club that

has a long history, but yearns for better success.

'6 FROM 38 POOLS'

THIS WEEK'S MATCH LIST

WEEK 527

SAT. 2ND SEPTEMBER, 1995

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	CHARLTON	HUDDERSFIELD	1
GRIMSBY	WATFORD	2	
STOKE	OLDHAM	3	
BOURNEMOUTH	ROTHERHAM	4	
BRADFORD C.	WYCOMBE	5	
BENTFORD	SWINDON	6	
BRIGHTON	NOTTS COUNTY	7	
BRISTOL R.	WREXHAM	8	
BURNLEY	WALSALL	9	
CHESTERFIELD	HULL	10	
PETERBORO	BRISTOL C.	11	
SHREWSBURY	BLACKPOOL	12	
STOCKPORT	CREWE	13	
BARNET	LINCOLN	14	
BURY	PLYMOUTH	15	
CHESTER	HEREFORD	16	
DARLINGTON	CARDIFF	17	
DONCASTER	HARTLEPOOL	18	
EXETER	SCUNTHORPE	19	
GILLINGHAM	COLCHESTER	20	
LEYTON O.	FULHAM	21	
PRESTON	CAMBRIDGE U.	22	
ROCHDALE	NORTHAMPTON	23	
SCARBORO	WIGAN A.	24	
TORQUAY	MANSFIELD	25	
ALTRINCHAM	KID'MINSTER	26	
BROMSGROVE	DOVER	27	
FARNBORO	NORTHWICH	28	
GATESHEAD	STEVENAGE	29	
HALIFAX	WELLING UTD	30	
HEDNESFORD	WOKING	31	
KETTERING	SOUTHPORT	32	
MACCLESFIELD	BATH	33	
MORECAMBE	SLOUGH	34	
RUNCORN	DAGENHAM & R.	35	
STALYBRIDGE	TELFORD	36	
* BLYTH SP.	MATLOCK	37	
BUXTON	SPENNYMOOR	38	

RESERVE MATCHES

UNIBOND FOOTBALL LGE	CHORLEY	BISHOP AUCK	39
	DROYLSDEN	BOSTON	40
	EMLEY	BARROW	41
	FRICKLEY A.	MARINE	42
	GUISELEY	LEEK	43
	WITTON A.	BAMBER BR.	44
	AIRDRIE	ST MIRREN	45
	CLYDEBANK	DUNDEE	46
	DUMBARTON	DUNFERMLINE	47
	DUNDEE U.	HAMILTON	48
	ST JOHNSTONE	G'N'C MORTON	49
	AYR	BERWICK	50
	FORFAR	STENH'MUIR	51
	Q. OF SOUTH	CLYDE	52
	STIRLING A.	EAST FIFE	53
	STRANRAER	MONTROSE	54
	* ALBION R.	CAL. THISTLE	55

* UNIBOND FOOTBALL LEAGUE

† SCOTTISH DIVISION 3

GET YOUR POOLS IN

Don't forget
Pools Quick Pick

MATCH RESULTS

WEEK 526
SAT. 26TH AUGUST, 1995

ENGLISH PREMIER DIV.	BOLTON	BLACKBURN	1	2-1
COVENTRY	ARSENAL	2	0-0	
EVERTON	SOUTHAMPTON	3	2-0	
LEEDS	ASTON VILLA	4	2-0	
MAN. UTD	WIMBLEDON	5	3-1	
MIDDLESBRO	CHELSEA	6	2-0	
NOTTINGHAM F.	WEST HAM	7	1-1	
QPR	MAN. CITY	8	1-0	
TOTTENHAM	LIVERPOOL	9	1-3	
BIRMINGHAM	NORWICH	10	3-1	
CRYSTAL P.	CHARLTON	11	1-1	
DERBY	GRIMSBY	12	1-1	
LUTON	LEICESTER	13	1-1	
MILLWALL	SOUTHEND	14	0-0	
OLDHAM	SHEFFIELD UTD	15	2-1	
PORTSMOUTH	READING	16	0-0	
SUNDERLAND	WOLVES	17	2-0	
TRANMERE	HUDDERSFIELD	18	3-1	
WATFORD	BARNESLEY	19	2-3	
WEST BROM.	IPSWICH	20	0-0	
BRADFORD C.	SHREWSBURY	21	3-1	
BRISTOL C.	STOCKPORT	22	1-0	
BURNLEY	BRENTFORD	23	1-0	
CARLISLE	SWINDON	24	0-1	
HULL	BLACKPOOL	25	2-1	
OXFORD UTD	ROTHERHAM	26	1-1	
PETERBORO	NOTTS COUNTY	27	0-1	
SWANSEA	CHESTERFIELD	28	3-2	
WALSALL	BRISTOL R.	29	1-1	
WREXHAM	BRIGHTON	30	1-1	
WYCOMBE	BOURNEMOUTH	31	1-2	
YORK	CREWE	32	2-3	
CHESTER	PLYMOUTH	33	3-1	
COLCHESTER	LINCOLN	34	3-0	
DONCASTER	CARDIFF	35	0-0	
EXETER	SCARBORO	36	2-0	
FULHAM	TORQUAY	37	4-0	
GILLINGHAM	CAMBRIDGE U.	38	3-0	

RESULTS AND DIVIDEND HOTLINES

Phone: 0055 33111 Australia, Wide, Or, Sydney
0055 29043; Melbourne (03) 11521; Brisbane (07)
11699; Adelaide (08) 11521; Perth (09) 11520.

Results are available from 8pm.

Sundays, dividends after 5pm Mondays.

THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY AT

26/8/95 WEEK 526

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURED NO. OF WEEKS NUMBER OCCURED

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**OFFICIAL:
ANDREI A
TOFFEE**

The transfer of Ukrainian player Andrei Kanchelskis was finally completed last week after Everton agreed to pay half of the cash demanded by his former Ukrainian club Shakhtyor Donetsk.

His \$A10.46 million move from Manchester United hit the rocks last month when Shakhtyor Donetsk demanded a sell-on fee of 30 per cent — a sum of about \$A2.38 million.

United called off the deal and recalled the winger to Manchester. But Kanchelskis refused to comply and trained on his own. He vowed never to play for the club again after clashes with manager Alex Ferguson.

But Everton continued to press for the deal to go through and took the case to the English Football Association for arbitration. Today, perseverance paid dividends.

Manchester United said in a statement: "Agreement has been reached with Everton for the transfer of Andrei Kanchelskis for a cash consideration of five million pounds."

The statement confirmed the demand made by the Ukrainian club and added: "Manchester United is still in discussion with Donetsk regarding this matter. Everton has agreed to indemnify Manchester United in respect of 50 per cent of any payment made to Donetsk up to a maximum amount of 0.55 million pounds (\$A1,150,000)."

Time for Ferguson to laugh at critics



Before last weekend someone had suggested that manager Alex Ferguson should lock the gates at Old Trafford to stop any more stars leaving.

But Ferguson was laughing at the critics after his young Manchester United side gave Wimbledon its first defeat of the soccer season in the premier league.

"Wimbledon are such a powerful team and it was a great experience and occasion for our younger players today but they all came through it," Ferguson said.

"Games like today will help them because playing Wimbledon is a test. It's almost like an initiation as a man."

With Mark Hughes, Paul Ince and — finally — Andrei Kanchelskis gone elsewhere, Eric Cantona suspended and Ryan Giggs injured, United has been relying largely on untested youngsters for the early part of the season.

Ferguson's faith in his raw talent seemed misplaced when the side, which just missed out on a third consecutive title last season, was thrashed 3-1 at Aston Villa on the opening day of the season. But the return of \$A14.64 million striker Andy Cole after shin splints surgery, proved just the boost the youngsters needed.

Cole scored United's second goal in their 3-1 win,

between two strikes by Irish international Roy Keane.

"It was an exceptionally good goal," said Ferguson of Cole's effort. "He turned his marker twice and hit a shot that no keeper could expect

to get near."

Of Keane, Ferguson said: "He has confirmed all the things I've said about him. He's giving us a goal threat, he's making some great runs through the middle and has the stamina to keep going."

United fans were devastated by the exodus from Old Trafford during the close season. Ince packed his bags for Milan, Hughes headed south to Chelsea and Russia international Kanchelskis demanded a transfer to Everton which was finalised only on Friday.

Ferguson chased Cantona to Paris to persuade him to take back a shock transfer request but the Frenchman remains suspended until September 30 for attacking a fan last January.

But after Saturday's performance Wimbledon manager Joe Kinnear judged United still to be impressive opponents despite the dearth of star names.

"They've got some exciting kids. United have lost a few players but they're still a force to be reckoned with," Kinnear said.

Bolton upsets Blackburn

Defender Alan Stubbs netted the winner 10 minutes from the end as promoted Bolton upset champion Blackburn Rovers 2-1 in the English Premier League last weekend leaving Rovers with a second defeat in four days.

Manchester United, which finished runner up last season, swept to its second win in a row by downing Wimbledon 3-1. But Leeds became the only club with three victories from three games by downing Aston Villa 2-0 at Elland Road.

Dutch midfielder Fabian De Freitas scored Bolton's first at Burden Park before Matt Holmes leveled for Rovers. But Stubbs' strike near the end meant that the champion was beaten for the second time and already is off title pace. Roy Keane scored two of United's goals against the Dons with the other coming from Andy Cole and the Leeds pair came from Gary Speed and substitute David White as Villa suffered its first defeat.

Two goals from John Barnes and another by Robbie Fowler gave Liverpool a 3-1

victory at Spurs for whom Colin Calderwood scored a late reply.

Middlesbrough, the other promoted club, downed Chelsea 2-0 on its first appearance at its new Riverside Stadium. Elsewhere, it was Coventry 0 Arsenal 0, Everton 2 Southampton 0, Nottingham Forest 1 West Ham 1 and Queens Park Rangers 1 Manchester City 0.

The results mean that Leeds has nine points from three games. Newcastle can match that Sunday by beating Sheffield Wednesday at Hillsborough.

Southampton is the only team without a point from three games and is last in the standings. Spurs, Manchester City and West Ham all have one point.

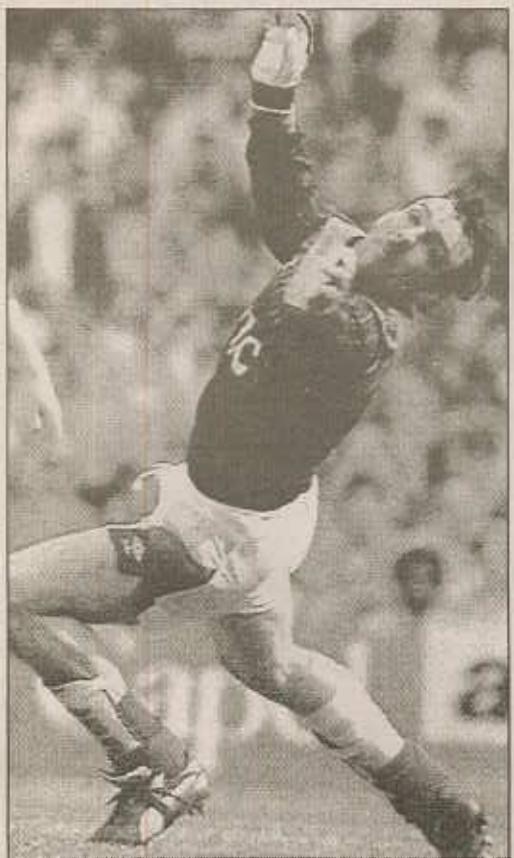
Craig Hignett and Norwegian striker Jan Aage Fjortoft were Middlesbrough's scorers against Chelsea and Swedish midfielder Anders Limpar and Nigerian striker Daniel Amokachi hit the net for Everton against the Saints.

ENGLISH LEAGUE CUP

SECOND ROUND

Watford	v	Bournemouth
Oxford	v	Queen's Pk R.
Wimbledon	v	Charlton
Birmingham	v	Grimsby
Tranmere	v	Oldham
Cardiff	v	Southampton
Sheffield United	v	Chesterfield or Bury
Stoke	v	Chelsea
Tottenham	v	Chester
Leeds	v	Notts County
Southend	v	Crystal Palace
Huddersfield	v	Barnsley
Norwich	v	Torquay
Bradford	v	Nottingham F.
Hartlepool	v	Arsenal
Bolton	v	Brentford
Coventry	v	Hull
Middlesbrough	v	Rotherham
Shrewsbury	v	Derby
Wolverhampton	v	Fulham
Wycombe	v	Manchester City
Leicester	v	Burnley
Crewe or Darlington	v	Sheffield Wed.
Stockport or Wrexham	v	Ipswich
Reading	v	West Bromwich
Bristol Rovers	v	West Ham
Aston Villa	v	Peterborough
Liverpool	v	Sunderland
Millwall	v	Everton
Manchester United v	v	York
Swindon	v	Blackburn
Bristol City	v	Newcastle

Ties to be played over two legs during weeks commencing September 18 and October 2.



Neville Southall: A wealth of international knowledge.

3-Man team coach Wales

New Wales manager Bobby Gould plans to tap into the wealth of international knowledge amassed by Neville Southall and Ian Rush to halt the principality's year-long run without a victory.

Wales has not won a match since beating Albania 2-0 on September 7 last year in the opening European Championship qualifier.

Since then it has conceded 16 goals, scoring only four in reply, in a run of five defeats and a draw in Germany.

Everton goalkeeper Southall, Wales' most capped player, challenged Gould for the manager's job.

Now the Englishman, handed a two-and-a-half year contract to guide Wales out of the mire, wants to use the expertise of his senior players in preparation for the qualifying game against Moldova at Cardiff Arms Park on September 6.

"Nev and Ian will be assisting me in the coaching for the Moldova game. They have a wealth of experience under their belts," explained Gould.

"Both players want to give something back to Welsh football and I think this is

the way."

Among the forwards joining Rush in the squad will be Reading striker Lee Nogan. He gets the nod ahead of Arsenal's \$A5.19 million man John Hartson, who will play in the under-21 game.

Paul Bodin is recalled after recovering from injury, while Swansea right-back Stephen Jenkins gets his first senior call and is the only uncapped member of the 18-strong squad.

Manchester United's Ryan Giggs is unavailable through injury, while Wimbledon's Vinnie Jones is suspended following his dismissal against Georgia in Cardiff.

Goalkeepers: Neville Southall, Tony Roberts

Defenders: Adrian Williams, Kit Symons, Chris Coleman, Stephen Jenkins, Mark Bowen, Paul Bodin

Midfield: David Phillips, Barry Horne, Mark Pembridge, Gary Speed, John Cornforth

Forwards: Mark Hughes, Ian Rush, Dean Saunders, Nathan Blake, Lee Nogan.



Ian Rush: To advise Wales manager Bobby Gould.

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